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WEEKLY

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VICTORIA AFTER HONOURS
 Greg Blake — P11

National League bid —

BRUSASCO COME-BACK

BY GREG RUSSELL

OUSTED Australian Soccer Federation chairman Ian Brusasco could be recruited to head Queensland's return to the National Soccer League.

A number of leading Queensland officials believe Brusasco cannot be allowed to drift out of the code after losing the ASF chairmanship to NSW's John Constantine.

Brusasco has ruled out a return to the Queensland Soccer Federation, where he has served as president and vice-president since its inception, but has privately indicated his interest in the NSL promotion push.

"I've been in the game too long just to walk away," he said.

"I have long been a supporter of franchis-



Ian Brusasco

ing in the NSL and I am fully aware of the urgency of getting Queensland representation back into the national competition."

Two groups are formulating proposals for a Queensland entry into the NSL, one backed by the QSF, the other by former Rochedale president John Hancock, who lost the 1988 QSF presidency vote to Wal Dana.

The QSF's proposal is based on a broad support plan involving clubs in its top two divisions, while the Hancock proposal is a private entry.

While he was ASF chairman, Brusasco understandably was unable to indicate which of the two he preferred.

That situation may change now, and it could be a matter of

which consortium contacts Brusasco first.

"At the moment, I'm enjoying my golf," Brusasco said.

"I had one of my best rounds in a long time the day after the ASF meeting.

"I haven't really thought about it much, but my door always has been and always will be open to soccer people."

Recruiting Brusasco could be the vital edge for either consortium.

He is recognised as one of Queensland sport's most respected and astute administrators, while his business contacts are unrivalled.

"Having Brusasco as the head of your consortium would give it instant credibility," said one official.

Weather handicaps juniors — See Page 18

NSL CUP FINAL
 SYDNEY OLYMPIC v
 SOUTH MELB HELLAS



Today's action photo shows South Melbourne Hellas goalkeeper Bruce Maclaren grasping the ball as Steve Blair comes in as support. Last season Adelaide City took the NSL Cup with a 2-0 win over Sydney Olympic, who meet Souths in this year's final. Olympic has dynamic Alistair Edwards back in the side, but Souths could miss playmaker Paul Wade due to illness — see inside ►►

Hair's breadth to decide Award

BY GREG BLAKE

THE very first ASW-Bayswater Indoor Soccer Centre Player of the Year Award is set to be decided in the very last home and away clashes of the season.



ALAN DAVIDSON

After 24 rounds of voting no clear winner of ASW's first QNSL Player of the Year is apparent.

How players performed last weekend and how they'll per-

form this week in the final round will probably determine the winner as the race for the grand trophy and \$300 cheque, compliments of the Bayswater Indoor Soccer Centre, comes right down to the wire.

John Filan was still clinging to his slender lead with former leaders Alan Davidson (Melbourne Croatia), Graham Arnold (Sydney Croatia) and Tommy McCulloch (Marconi) hot on his tail.

Filan's Round 24 votes were not included in this, our final update before the winner is announced.

The postponed Melita - St George clash wasn't played in time for us to get the votes into the computer, so Filan has to sweat on a full three rounds of points scoring before his fate is decided.

The wait will be a doubly anxious one for Filan as the talented newcomer is also in line to pick up the special goalkeeping award sponsored by Reusch Australia.

To be in contention for the award a player must poll votes in at least 20 games at season's end.

Players to have remained above the six vote average to this stage of the season are deemed to have had an exceptional season.

Final Five is a winner

BY GREG BLAKE

THIS will be my last word (I promise) on the 'great debate' of change versus tradition for Australian Soccer.

The latest exchange came courtesy of Victorian Soccer Federation executive director George Wallace, who managed to spark quite a discussion over a quiet lunch recently.

Wallace admitted that he was a stickler for the "traditions" of the game and, as such, was against the moves for a final five system of deciding any champion-

ship.

The debate raged for 20 minutes with George coming up with some quite compelling reasons why the old first-post-the-post system should always be maintained.

But, as always, my final question was whether the last two QNSL grand finals had been for the good of the game.

Whilst not conceding that the Final Five system was the way to go, George reluctantly admitted that the finals of 1988 and 1989 had, indeed, been just that.

And to me that is the

The leader board after Round 24 was:

6.91 — J.Filan (StG)*
6.83 — A.Davidson (MC)
6.74 — G.Arnold (SC)
6.71 — T.McCulloch (Marc)
6.57 — G.Jolevski (PM)
6.54 — R.Catlin (Marc)
C.Gosling (SO)
6.52 — D.Lowe (Marc)
A.McPherson (ME)*
6.48 — M.Durakovic (SMH)
6.43 — T.Pezzano (Apia)
6.42 — G.Phillips (SO)
6.40 — C.Moffitt (StG)*
6.39 — Z.Adzic (MC)
6.38 — A.Bundalo (Apia)
6.36 — G.Brown (ME)*
6.33 — R.Wheatley (Marc)
6.32 — B.Milosevic (MC)
6.29 — S.Keough (SGC)
6.26 — A.Tobin (AdC)
6.25 — P.Tsoulakis (SMH)
6.23 — W.Gonzalez (ME)*
D.Skeen (Woll)
B.Halliday (Apia)
6.22 — D.Crainie (Woll)
6.21 — R.Hooker (SO)
6.20 — R.Ironside (SO)
6.19 — R.Slager (AdH)
A.Genc (ME)*
6.17 — C.Hannah (MC)
6.16 — M.Petersen (SMH)
6.13 — R.Zabica (AdC)
B.MacLaren (SMH)
A.Kidd (AdH)
6.11 — Z.Odzakov (Black)
6.09 — S.Calderon (Marc)
6.08 — S.Bair (SMH)
B.Heim (AdH)
M.Jones (SC)
6.07 — A.Marsh (MC)
6.05 — S.Clinch (Apia)
P.Katholos (Marc)
A.Vidmar (Marc)
6.04 — P.Traianedes (PM)
D.Barrett (SO)



JOHN FILAN

6.00 — F.deJong (Marc)
G.Lee (SO)
T.Krslovic (StG)*
P.McFadden (Woll)
C.Veart (AdC)

* denotes votes calculated to end of Round 23 only.

Hajduk dates

BY LOU GAUTIER

WHILE approving the tour in June of Hajduk Split, the Australian Soccer Federation has yet to confirm the dates for the crack Yugoslav side's five games down under.

Hajduk, currently third in their league, will play two games against the Socceroos, who might be led by an interim coach if Czechoslovak supremo Joe Venglos clinches the Socceroo job later this month.

Venglos would not be able to take up his appointment before August as he will need at least a month off after Czechoslovakia's World Cup campaign in Italy.

Though Venglos appears the ideal choice, the smart money is still on Eddie Thomson.

He is known to have strong support in the ASF, including new chairman John Constantine despite his recent claim that Thomson was not a shoe-in for the post.

Hajduk tour promoters — Rade Cikes, Tony Topic and Joe Duzel — have proposed the following tour programme:

• v Australia — Patri-



Eddie Thomson
matto Stadium, June 3.

• v Australia — Olympic Park, June 6.

• v Melbourne Croatia — Somers Street, June 10.

• v Adelaide XI — Hindmarsh, June 13.

• v Sydney Croatia — Croatian Sports Centre, June 17.

The ASF is expected to agree to the above revised schedule next week.

Letter of the Week

I have written to ABC Television with a complaint in regard to the inordinate allocation of a time-slot of the 'English Soccer' programme on Thursday nights.

Although I agree with the concept of putting the NSL Big Match on Mondays to enable all soccer fans to see highlights of all matches, I cannot agree to giving the 11.15pm time slot for Thursday's programme.

How many would stay up that late?

The ABC should get its act together and take a note from Les Murray of SBS on presentation of Soccer programmes.

If it is not capable of arranging a sensible time-slot for the Thursday programme, then it should hand over the number one sport to the expert TV station — SBS.

Bob Kezovski
Barrack Heights 2528

GRAHAM ARNOLD

OLYMPIC ENTRIES

FIFA says a record 120 entries have already been received for the 1992 Olympic soccer tournament in Barcelona with the final count still to come.

FIFA spokesman GUIDO TOGNONI says the deadline for entries has been extended.

The Seoul Olympics in 1988 had the previous highest number of 112 entries.

The draw for the 1992 competition scheduled from July 25 to August 8 will take place in Rome July 6.

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Excitement galore in the last QNSL round

BY ALISTAIR RUSSELL

THE big match in the final round of the Quit National Soccer League on Sunday will be at Somers Street when Melbourne Croatia and Apia clash.

Both sides have chances of a top three berth if they can win and gain two bites of the cherry in the play-offs.

The home side, boasting one of the most lethal attacks in the QNSL, have not been beaten in their last eight games, scoring 16 goals and conceding just five.

Meanwhile, Manfred Schaefer's side of bits and pieces, have set their sights on challenging for top honours and have not lost in their last three away from Lambert Park.

Although the home ground advantage should give Croatia the edge, Apia have fought too hard to lie down now and have beaten the Melbourne side two out of the three matches played in the southern capital.

The 'City of Churches' derby takes place again this Sunday at Hindmarsh when Adelaide Hellas 'host' City.

Perhaps the last time for a while with Hellas last week relegated

following their draw at Sunshine.

Hellas with just one win in their last nine matches have come off worse from local derbies in the past and back in round 13, more than 10,000 looked on as City triumphed 2-0.

With the class of players such as Alex Tobin, Steve Maxwell and Carl Veart, City should win and maybe have an outside chance of a place in the top three.

The talented South Melbourne are in Sydney this weekend to take on the Frank Arok-coached St George at Barton Park on Sunday.

Hellas will prove a tough nut to crack for Arok's charges, boasting the best defensive record in the league, a powerful midfield and an irrepressible attack where Paul Trimboli pulls the strings.

Souths have had the edge over the Saints in Sydney in the past and have not lost in their last four games away from home.

Any side Arok takes charge, however, is difficult to toss and although the Saints have won only one in their last four at home, will be keen to end a disappointing season on a

winning note.

Souths must win to assure a place in the top three and should have enough in reserve to take the points.

Pride of place on the ladder goes on the line at Melita Stadium when the Eagles host Sydney Croatia on Sunday.

Melita, with a match in hand against St George, have enjoyed a very successful first season back in the 'big time', while in contrast their opponents on Sunday, Croatia, have had a poor season by their high standards.

For all Melita's successes, they have one of the poorest attacking records in the league, yet boast the league's top scorer in Greg Brown.

Without a handful of narrow defeats and the obvious tale of woe in front of goal, Melita could have been on the fringe of the top five with a little luck but have not beaten Croatia in six years.

Croatia's away record is far better than at home and they have lost only twice in their last nine matches away from the Sports Centre while in David Seal they have uncovered a fine young striker who has cemented his place

following the departure of Robbie Slater and is one of the league's leading scorers.

Wollongong, destined to finish in the bottom four, take on the league's survivors, Sunshine, at Brandon Park on Sunday.

With only one win in their last 11 matches and six straight defeats away from home, George will not go into the game full of confidence but last week they survived the drop to the State League once again by the skin of their teeth, after holding Adelaide Hellas to a draw.

Another side plagued by injuries to key players, Sunshine's slump included only scoring once and conceding 15 goals in their last six away from home.

The Wolves' home record is little better, with only one win in five, yet they have never been beaten by George Cross at home and should win again on Sunday.

Woodenspooners Blacktown host bogey side Sydney Olympic this Sunday. Olympic have won nine out of the 10 matches played between the two sides and the Demons last won five years ago.

Regular season finale at Marconi Stadium

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

BERTI Mariani's Marconi, chasing their third consecutive NSL championship, stack up against visiting Preston on Sunday at Marconi Stadium.

Marconi, with tough as teak midfielder Ian Gray back from injury, look a far better balanced outfit and appear fully geared to cement the minor premiership.

'Iggy' is to Marconi what Steve McMahon is to Liverpool and England.

But Mariani is fully aware that Preston will be out to do him no favours.

With their strike-line of Andrew Zinni, Robbie Markovac and the return of Warren Spink, Preston will be determined to hinder Marconi's march



Preston's high-flying George Jolevski — a tough opponent for Marconi this weekend.

towards the championship.

Prior to Mariani taking over Marconi, the progressive Fairfield club had won only one championship, that being back in 1979 under the guidance of Les Scheinflug.

When questioned about Sunday's outcome, the young Marconi supremo in characteristic fashion told ASW: "We will just have to wait and see, won't we?"

have developed a non-philanthropic attitude towards all opponents.

MARCONI — versus — PRESTON



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Pressure tells in Hindmarsh clash

BY ALAN CLARK



Action from the clash between the two Croatias in Sydney last month. The match ended in a 3-3 draw — a far cry from the goal drought at Hindmarsh — HECTOR CARRASCO photo.

THE pressure of the occasion told on Adelaide City and Melbourne Croatia in this crucial encounter on Sunday at Hindmarsh which ended in a 0-0 draw.

There probably was too much at stake for the sides to produce an evening of their customary flair and champagne attacking soccor.

Croatia seemed intent, and content, to play for a share of the spoils and achieved their goal with ease.

Adelaide City had the edge on possession and attacking moves but they huffed and puffed without really threatening giant David Miller in the Croatia goal.

He was called to brilliance only once in 62 minutes when he finger-tipped a net-bound Joe Mullen header over the bar.

A Paul Shillabeer

header just past from an Adrian Santrac corner in the dying seconds was the next nearest City came.

Branko Milosevic, subdued by a virus infection, had the best of Croatia's limited scoring chances.

He tested Socceroo keeper Robert Zabica in 39 minutes and then shot past in 78 minutes when set up by Zeljko Adzic.

All the better play, though, came from the respective defences. Alex Tobin again was a giant for City with Milan Ivanovich and Tony Vidmar.

George Hannah played well for Croatia and Mark Talajic slotted in nicely to the backline after Paul Donnelly was helped off.

The fullback had concussion after twice being felled by Shillabeer 'collisions.'

Croatia perhaps was too elaborate in its build-up with Adzic.

and skipper Joe Biskic dwelling just long enough on the ball to halt the rhythm of play.

This was no classic but the importance of the occasion kept the vociferous fans engrossed.

Former Socceroo Alan Davidson can count himself a lucky man not to have been dismissed.

Booked in 49 minutes for a foul on Mullen, he looked sure for an early bath when he blocked Steve Maxwell in 74 minutes.

But referee John McConnell adjudged Talajic had committed the offence and entered his name in the book.

Not happy with that, Davidson bulldozed over Tony Vidmar only moments later and again escaped without censure.

But the booking he did pick up probably will see him miss the next two games.

"It is going to be very hard to win from fourth or fifth," said City coach Zoran Matic.

"Now we must rely on others to help us get up for the double-chance."

"These are the kind of tough games you can expect at this time," said Matic of last night's engrossing encounter.

"They could have won but that would have been unfair on us."

"The effort was there for us but too often we rushed things. We tried to swallow the food before we had chewed it," he concluded.

ADELAIDE CITY: Zabica 6, Shillabeer 6, T. Vidmar 6, Ivanovich 6, Tobin 7, Mullen 6, Veart 6, Mullen 7, Maxwell 6, Villani 6.

MELBOURNE CROATIA: Miller 7, Davidson 6, Selenidis 6, Donnelly 6 (Kelic 5), Hannah 7, Talajic 7, Milosevic 6, Biskic 6, Markovski 6, Adzic 6, Awaritefe 5.

YELLOW CARDS: Shillabeer 47m for Ad City; Adzic 47m, Davidson 49m, Talajic 74m, for Melbourne Croatia.

REFEREE: J. McConnell 6.

CROWD: 6000 (estimate).



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WE STILL HAVE A
FEW PACKAGES
LEFT.
STADIUM TICKETS
GROUP DEPARTURES
26th MAY 2nd JUNE



Adelaide Hellas relegated

BY GREG BLAKE

SKINNER Reserve was a fitting place for a burial on Sunday afternoon.

Drizzly rain fell, a biting, cold wind chilled the soul and the dark clouds which loomed overhead were a constant reminder that the NSL's first summer season was all but over.

By late afternoon the second chapter in Adelaide Hellas' chequered NSL career was also over. The only thing missing was the flowers.

Hellas had threatened not to Rest In Peace, a first half goal from Steve Politis had sent a shockwave through a Sunshine George Cross camp which had fully expected a reprieve from the usual dramatic last-ditch relegation escape in the final home and away round.

After all, Sunshine had bought back almost all of its 'gun' players for the crucial match-up and, having dominated the first half hour, George Cross looked a sure thing.

But four minutes from the break Hellas produced the unexpected when Billy Wright almost casually knocked in a cross from wide on the right and Politis speared the ball home with a first-time effort which stunned a home crowd which, seconds beforehand, had been taunting the visitors with chants of "easy, easy".

The chants were probably justified — George Cross had powered on in the early going and looked set for a handsome victory.

Whilst Hellas claimed a penalty denied in the 19th minute, the George Cross faithful could

look to at least five clear-cut chances gone begging before the opening goal.

Paul Foster missed a couple and Ernie Tapai, who looks dangerous only until he is within shooting range, were not going to score if the match had continued until midnight.

Those missed chances seemed, for a time, that they might prove to be a lifeline for Hellas.

But seven minutes after half-time it took right-back Luciano Fabrizio to show the George Cross forwards how it should be done.

George Cross fans hadn't seen a goal for six games but Fabrizio gave them one to cherish on Saturday as he levelled at 1-1 and condemned the South Australians to State League football.

Winning the ball just inside the defensive half, Fabrizio took off like a gazelle in a mazy run which took him past one, then two and then three Hellas defenders before he drove home his memorable shot without checking his strike.

The roar nearly lifted the roof from the old Skinner Reserve grandstand.

Hellas disappointed with its final half-hour with the result still in the balance.

There was little of the frenzied effort one might have expected from a side still with a flicker left at the end of their tunnel.

Courageous Alby Kidd and one or two others battled it out but the half-hearted challenge posed few problems even for struggling Sunshine.

SUNSHINE: Keogh 7, Fabrizio 6, Roodhouse 7, Waddell 6, Ketsakidis 7, Kindtner 6 (Parton 67m), C. Foster 5, Campbell 5, Hasler 5, Tapol 6, P. Foster 4 (Muscat 88m).

ADELAIDE HELLAS: Parks 7, Hein 6, Sieger 6, Doak 6, Sterrey 7, Wright 4, Kidd 8, Reynolds 5 (Brazzale 80m), Blair 6, Politis 6 (Watkins 85m).

SCORERS: Fabrizio 52m for Sunshine; Politis 41m for Adelaide Hellas.

YELLOW CARDS: Muscat 88m for Sunshine; Wright 80m, Mills 88m for Adelaide Hellas.

REFEREE: R. Lorenc 7.

CROWD: 1800.

THE PAPER THAT PRINTS ALL YEAR

WADE IN DOUBT

STAR Socceroo and South Melbourne Hellas mid-fielder Paul Wade might be in doubt for the QNSL finals.

Wade, rated as the king-pin in the Hellas midfield engine room, is awaiting the results of blood tests which could determine his availability for the remainder of the season.

Wade, the hardest working member of a classy Hellas side, had the tests done last week after he had to miss the club's mid-week cup semi-final against Adelaide City.

Wade dropped out of the team after suffering from weakness and general lethargy.

The blood tests will determine if Wade is to miss the finals.

A preliminary diagnosis has ruled out glandular fever.

A positive sign is that Wade trained with Hellas last Saturday morning and he was named in the team to play Melita Eagles at Middle Park on Easter Monday.

— GREG BLAKE



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GOALKEEPER OF THE YEAR PROGRESSIVE SCORES



NAME
1. JOHN FILAN
2. BOB CATLIN
CLINT GOSLING

CLUB
St George
Marconi
Olympic

GAMES
23
24
24

AVE
6.91
6.54
6.54

GOALKEEPER OF THE WEEK

SEAN KEOGH

Yankos' future under cloud

SOCEROO captain Charlie Yankos is prepared to play in the State League with National Soccer League-relegated club Blacktown City, even though he believes his two-year contract would be "null and void".

Yankos, who is now in the invidious position of trying to play for the national team out of the State League, is one of the major casualties of Blacktown's demise this season.

Yankos, one of the high-profile Socceroos under the reign of former national coach Frank Arok, is prepared to negotiate with Blacktown to see out his contract, even though he believes the club's relegation has changed the conditions of his contract.

"Now that the club has been relegated to the State League, I believe that makes the contracts null and void, but I am still prepared to negotiate with the club for my services there next season."

Under the turnaround in Australian seasons, the State League takes on special significance as a bridge between the summer QNSL seasons, and with this in mind Yankos sees no embarrassment in stepping down a grade to play in the hope that Blacktown will win back its place in the QNSL by winning the state league.

"There are some matches for the Socceroos around June and July when the QNSL is in recess and I want to continue playing to maintain my fitness to be in line to play if required," he said.

There are several QNSL players signing



Socceroo captain Charlie Yankos (right) exchanges banners with his Israeli counterpart. Will he stay with Blacktown? — HECTOR CARRASCO photo.

to make guest appearances in the State League so they can keep up to scratch, and Yankos wants to be a part of that.

"It's always been my intention to play with a State League club this year, irrespective of whether Blacktown stayed up or went down," said Yankos.

Negotiations with Blacktown are being carried out by his manager and Yankos expects a decision shortly before the start of the State League in mid-May.

Club president Greg Gingell said he already had received assurances that QNSL regulars Lawrie McKenna, Eric Ferguson, Geoff

Gunning and Darren Northam would stick with Blacktown in the State League campaign.

Gingell said he had not heard back from Yankos and young striker Zlatko Arambasic, who had been linked with Sydney Croatia.

Veteran midfielder Zarko Odzakay has retired from the game and plans to return to Yugoslavia, while City sold defenders Kurt Reynolds and Lee Sterrey to fellow-relegated QNSL club Adelaide Hellas.

It is still conceivable that Blacktown could return to the QNSL within the calendar



S
S
TI-IE

Quit

Marconi
South Melb
Melbourne C
Adelaide C
Apa Leichha

Sydney Olymp
Sydney Croat
Mellita Eagles
Preston Mak
St George
Wollongong C
Sunshine GC

Adelaide Hell
Blacktown C

SUNSHIN
ADELAIDE
serve. Cro
ADELAIDE
at Hindma
APIA LEI
(J.P. de
4084.
SOUTH
Talladoros
er) at Mid
PRESTO
BLACKTC
at Connor

first grade."

— courtesy AAP

NSL C
WEDNESDAY
SYD OLYMPIC

Watch da
venue and



BELL AND KOSMINA.
YOUR SO

Marconi defeats Apia 2-1 on Easter Monday

BY FRANK SCICLUNA



Darren Stewart (Apia) makes no bones about moving the ball in the match against Melita at Lambert Park. Photo: Hector Carrasco.

DEFENDER Jean-Paul de Marigny virtually wrapped up the minor premiership for Marconi, scoring a goal in each half to give champions Marconi a thrilling 2-1 win over Apia Leichhardt at Lambert Park on Easter Monday.

On a very heavy pitch both teams experienced difficulties controlling the slippery ball and with the early tension of the match also affecting most players, clear-cut chances were few and far between.

Apia midfielder Shane Clinch managed to slip through Marconi after only 40

seconds to collect a Brian Ellem ball but had to overstretch and failed to get enough power in his attempt.

In the middle of the first half, Marconi started to exert sustained heavy pressure on Apia.

De Jong and Gomez both had half-chances to find the net but Apia somehow survived until eight minutes from the break when Marconi took the lead with a goal that would have made the great Maradona proud.

Marconi won a free kick outside the area and Jean Paul de Marigny curled his shot with slide-rule precision to beat a despairing Tony Pezzano in the angle of post and crossbar.

Apia hit back two minutes from the break following an inspired 20-metre raid from Klaus Okon which took him into the penalty area and his cross beat Catlin for Alex Bundalo to slam home from point-blank range.

Marconi took the game to their opponents straight from the restart and regained the lead in the 54th minute.

Once again it was de Marigny who proved the unlikely hero, picking up a loose ball and curling a left foot shot into the far corner.

Staring defeat in the face, Apia threw everything into attack in a desperate effort to salvage the valuable point they needed but lack of finish and a tight Marconi defence saw the champions gall-

lop to victory.

APIA: Pezzano 6, McQuarrie 6, Stankovic 6 (M. Brown 55m), Halliday 7, Jennings 6, Bundalo 7, Clinch 6, Ellem 6, K. Okon 6 (Murray 82m), van Berk 7, Stewart 6.

MARCONI: Catlin 7, van Egmond 6, Calderon 7, Wheatley 7, de Marigny 8, Gray 6, McCulloch 7, P. Okon 8 (Katholos 85m), Gomez 6 (Colaguri 62m), Lowe 7, de Jong 7.

Scorers: de Marigny 37 and 54 mins for Marconi; Bundalo 43m for Apia.

Yellow cards: Stankovic 44m for Apia.

Referee: J. Santa Isabel.

Crowd: 4,000.

PRESTON WIN 2-1

PRESTON defeated Blacktown City 3-2 on Easter Monday at Connor Reserve.

Temcev, Markovac and Warren Spink scored for the Victorians.

Geoff Gunning and youngster Comerford netted for Blacktown.

Full report and details next week.

RESCHEDULED NSL GAMES

THE NSL deferred games from Round 25 are to be played tonight (Wednesday).

Sydney Olympic meets St George at St George Stadium, whilst Sydney Croatia is home to Wollongong City at Edensor Park.

Both games kick off at 7.30pm.

Melita Eagles — St George is being rescheduled.

Obtain
ASW
every
Wednesday!

Souths drop point

BY ANDREW KOSTOPOULOS

IN an entertaining match played in dull conditions, South Melbourne Hellas and Melita Eagles were good value in their 2-2 draw at Middle Park on Monday.

The second half proved as action-packed as the first. South Melbourne equalised after a cross from the left by Peter Tsolakis was headed on by Kimon Taliadoros which was headed into the net by Joe Palatrides.

Melita soon regained their lead when Lenny Vial met a cross from Marshall Soper who headed into the target in the 57th minute. Melita continued pressing with further shots by Aytec Genc and Washington Gonzalez.

South Melbourne, however, came close to equalising when Taliadoros volleyed into Alex McPherson's body from only two metres out.

In an entertaining finish, Souths gained their vital equaliser with only two minutes left on the clock.

Taliadoros rose high to meet a Paul Wade cross from the right and headed home.

Melita, however, were more than excellent value for their one league point and



showed signs that they may be a force to be reckoned with next season.

South Melbourne began the game hoping to cement a place in the Top Three whilst Melita were content to continue with their improved end of year form.

The game was extremely entertaining and opened with many chances falling at either end.

Melita took the lead in the 20th minute when Marshall Soper scored from close range.

The cross was delivered by Greg Brown from the right and

Soper had no problem putting it past Bruce McLaren.

The game really came to life in the 35th minute when Peter Tsolakis went wide with his effort at one end and Melita's ace scorer Greg Brown hit the post after an enterprising run at the other end.

SOUTH MELBOURNE: McLaren 7, Wright 6, Postoglou 6, Durakovic 6, Blair 6, Palatrides 7, Petersen 5, Wade 7, Trimble 7, Taliadoros 6, Tsolakis 6.

MELITA: McPherson 7, Dickenson 6, Callanan 7, O'Donnell 6, Gonzalez 7, Gimenez 7 (Parson 74m), Vial 7, Mason 7, Soper 6, Brown 6, Genc 7.

Yellow cards: Vial 37m, Brown 43m and Callanan 66m for Melita.

Referee: T. McRoe 7.

Crowd: 3,000 (estimate).



Phil Traianedes (Preston) stretches for the ball as Sydney Olympic's Robbie Ironside attacks. Andrew Zinni (left) is on the alert. — HECTOR CARRASCO Photo.

Weekend fixtures



Summer SOCCER
THE HEAT IS ON
ROUND 25

WEDNESDAY APRIL 18

SYDNEY CROATIA v WOLLONGONG CITY
SYDNEY OLYMPIC v ST GEORGE

ROUND 26

SUNDAY, APRIL 22
MARCONI v PRESTON MAKE
ADELAIDE HELLAS v ADELAIDE CITY
ST GEORGE v SOUTH MELBOURNE
MELITA EAGLES v SYDNEY CROATIA
WOLLONGONG CITY v SUNSHINE GC
MELBOURNE CROATIA v APIA L'HARDT
BLACKTOWN CITY v SYDNEY OLYMPIC

The Melita Eagles — St George game will be rescheduled during the week. Check daily newspapers for possible changes due to weather etc.

Marconi Stadium 3pm
Hindmarsh Stadium 2.30pm
St George Stadium 3pm
Melita Stadium 3pm
Brandon Park 3pm
Somers Street 3pm
Gabbie Stadium 3pm

Both games kick off at 7.30pm.
Melita Eagles — St George is being rescheduled.

Not all equally guilty in riot

BY LOU GAUTIER

THE disgraceful crowd scenes at Round 24's Sydney Olympic v Preston QNSL tie at St George Stadium elicited the usual pontificating from the media.



Fair enough that the incident — an ugly one — was given prominence in the newspapers, television and radio as it was a news story.

Some newspapers even had editorials on the subject and the NSW Government got in the act, via Police Minister Ted Pickering and Minister for Sport Bob Rowland Smith.

All of which, again, is fair enough following the appalling scenes at St George Stadium.

What is less commendable is that all spectators involved in the brawl should be tarred by the same brush.

It is a well known fact that a small element of Preston's Macedonian support invariably turns up when the Melbourne-based side plays in Sydney.

You can see about one hundred mainly young men in their distinctive red shirts, many brandishing red and black flags wherever and whenever Preston appears in Sydney.

Mind you, they are only a minority of the Sydney-based supporters Preston usually attract to their games in NSW.

The rest are well behaved and are a boon to most of the Sydney QNSL clubs, whose attendances get a healthy boost when Pre-

ston plays against them.

Apia's attendance, for instance, was almost twice as large as their usual gate at Lambert Park when they played host to the Victorians and the same went for Wollon-

when Yugoslav Macedonians stormed a Sydney hotel in 1988 when Greek political dignitaries were visiting Australia for an exhibition of "treasures" of Greece's favourite hero, Alexander the Great, the son of a king of Macedonia.

A match between Olympic and Preston, also at St George Stadium, last year produced equally ugly scenes between spectators.

The trouble this time started when a Sydney Olympic fan threw a flare on the pitch.

Olympic, and fans from other clubs, have done likewise many times before, without starting a riot and standing accused of 'pro-vo- cation'.

It sounds like a lame excuse to me as reliable eye witness accounts confirm that a small band of Preston fans were just waiting for something to happen.

Tension had been building even before the kick-off.

Ironically, the riot did not involve the players of both teams who continued playing

in true sporting fashion while the battles raged behind one goal.

Why the QNSL, which had made it a point of warning Melbourne Croatia and South Melbourne that no repeat of their first round disturbance at Olympic Park would

be tolerated when they met again at Somer Street, did not expect trouble at St George Stadium is mystery.

All the signs were surely there.

Maybe it's time the QNSL adopts FIFA's policy of declaring certain fixtures to be "high risk" games?

Like FIFA, the QNSL should instruct clubs involved in a high risk or "red alert" match that added precautions must be taken or accept the consequences.

Soccer's good name depends on it.



TOP — An unseemly punch-up between spectators. ABOVE — Police reinforcements "occupy" one of the hills at St George Stadium after quelling the riot last Sunday week.

THE SOUTH AMERICAN SCENE

ARGENTINE league leaders River Plate defeated Racing de Cordoba 1-0 at home to maintain a three-point lead over second placed Independiente and Rosario Central.

Independiente defeated Talleres de Cordoba, 2-1, while Rosario Central won two important points away after a 4-2 victory over Instituto de Cordoba.

There has been bad blood between the factions in Sydney before.

And soccer was certainly not involved

de Sante Fe 0 Argentinos Juniors 1.

Leading standings after four rounds: River Plate 40 points, Independiente and Rosario Central 37; Boca Juniors 32, Gimnasia y Esgrima and Union de Santa Fe 31.

Uruguay

In the Uruguayan First Division, champions Progreso drew with Danubio 1-1 and Pre-Libertadores league winner Defensor Sporting lost against Cerro 2-0.

Progreso and Defensor were without their regular players because of their involvement in the Libertadores Cup.

Other results: Newell's Old Boys 1 Boca Juniors 2; Deportivo Espanol 1 Chaco For Ever 2; Velez Sarsfield 1 Gimnasia y Esgrima 1; Ferro Carril Oeste 0 Racing Club 0; Estudiantes de la Plata 0 San Lorenzo 0; Deportivo Mandiyu 3 Platense 0 and Union

Racing 1 and Central 1.

Leading standings after four rounds: Group A-Progreso 7 points, Liverpool and Rentistas 5. Group B-Nacional 7 points, Central 6 and Wanderers 5.

Friendly

The United States, continuing its build-up preparation for the World Cup finals, defeated Iceland, 4-1 in a friendly international played in Saint Louis.

Scorers for the US were S. Tritschuk in the 16th minute, Eric Wynalda in the 30th and 37th and Bruce Murray in the 57th.

Iceland's goal was converted by Peter Petursson in the 85th minute.

— MARIO ETCHART

ROBBIE IRONSIDE

(Sydney Olympic)

PERSONALITY PLAYER



NAME: Robbie IRONSIDE
POSITION: Attacking midfielder

HEIGHT: 6'1"

WEIGHT: 93 Kilos

MARITAL STATUS: Single

BIRTHPLACE: New Zealand

DATE OF BIRTH: 20.8.67

HOME SUBURB: Coogee

OCCUPATION: Plasterer

PREVIOUS CLUBS: North Shore United, Glenfield Rovers

NICKNAME: "Kiwi"

CAR: Escort

BEST FRIEND: Fred De Jong

FAVOURITE FOOD: Anything and everything.

FAVOURITE MUSIC: U2

FAVOURITE T.V.SHOW: Allo-Allo, Black Adder

FAVOURITE POSITION: Centre-back

FAVOURITE GROUND: Marconi Stadium

FAVOURITE LOCAL PLAYER: Paul Wade

SUPERSTITIONS: None. I relax before a game

MOST MEMORABLE MATCH: When N.Z. beat

Australia in the Tasman Cup in 1987. We drew 1-1 here but beat Australia 1-0 in Wellington.

BIGGEST THRILL: Winning

BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: Losing

WORST INJURY: None

HARDEST OPPONENT: Graham Arnold

MOST PROMISING TEAM-MATE: Steve Georgakis

AMBITIONS: To keep playing for New Zealand

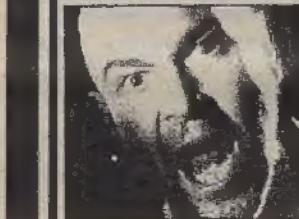
BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER: My Mum

FAVOURITE OVERSEAS PLAYER: Marco Van Basten

PERSON YOU'D MOST LIKE TO MEET: Arnold Schwarzenegger

Compiled by John Economos

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MS

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Souths win 1-0 to qualify for final

BY ALAN CLARK

OLD maestro Ferenc Puskas primed South Melbourne to perfection for a fighting NSL Cup semi-final win on Wednesday against Adelaide City at Hindmarsh.

South Melbourne officials were not happy in having to play the tie in SA but Hellas players were determined they would return home with a final place prize.

Tiny powerpack Peter Tsolakis, who had a



PETER TSOLAKIS (South Melbourne Hellas)

rocket shot cannon clear off a post just before the interval, broke the deadlock in 63 minutes.

He finished off a classic South Melbourne move.



STEVE MAXWELL
(Adelaide City)

Kim Taliadoros and Paul Trimboli cut an opening in the City defence and, when Socceroo keeper Robert Zabica parried a crisp parting shot from Trimboli, Tsolakis was lying handily to net the crumbs.

Sluggish City had been hassled out of its style in the first half by the crisp-tackling visitors.

Steve Blair and little gem Mehmet Durakovic were impassable in defence while cool Mike Petersen and will o' the wisp Danny Wright dic-

Easy for Sydney Olympic in semi

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

ABBAS scored a spectacular hat-trick to cement Sydney Olympic's entry into the 1990 NSL Cup final at the expense of Apia after outclassing the Leichhardt side 4-1 at Marconi Stadium last Wednesday night.

Olympic will be searching for their third NSL Cup when they clash with Victorian giants Melbourne Hellas in the final on Anzac Day.

Sydney Olympic coach Mick Hickman, forever phlegmatic, told me after the match: "I was very pleased with all the lads, especially our twin central defenders, Andrew Bernal and Tony Dakos. We battled as a unit and were hungry for more goals."

Alistair Edwards did extremely well upfront for us and himself. Al gave us much needed power and width."

Spearheaded by Saad's 'treble', plus the slashing form of striker Edwards, Olympic had

too much power and class for Apia.

In fact, the score could easily have been 7-1 had not Grant Lee hit the side netting (22nd minute). Saad missed with a penalty shot (78th) and Hristodoulou not gone just wide of the right post late in the second half.

Substitute striker Marko Perinovic also hit the post just four minutes from time.

Edwards opened the scoring in the 28th minute when Lee crossed from the right and Robbie Ironside nodded down for Edwards to polish off from five metres.

Seven minutes later, sweeper Tony Dakos knocked wide to the left for Edwards to clip a fine cross into the box and Saad nailed his first goal to put Olympic 2-0 ahead.

Apia's Peter Murray headed a fine goal five minutes before the break after meeting an excellent cross from highly talented right-back John McQuarrie.

Olympic surged to a

3-1 lead in the 63rd minute when Edwards sent a great cross from the right for Lee to head down and Saad finished off from close-range.

Saad polished off his hat-trick in the 68th minute when he nailed the target with a 20-metre freekick that pierced Apia's defensive wall and rocketed into the bottom left corner of the net.

Apia looked spiritless and surprised and their midfield quartet of Alex Bandalos, Shane Clinch, Brian Ellem and Jason van Blerk just could not contain a rampaging Sydney Olympic.

SYDNEY OLYMPIC: Gosling 7, Barrett 7, Dakos 7, Bernal 8, Hooker 7, Lee 7, Ironside 7, Phillips 7, Referees 7 (Hristodoulou 80m), Saad 8 (Perinovic 80m), Edwards 8.

APIA: Hughes 6, McQuarrie 6, Stankovic 6 (Theodoropoulos 67m), Halliday 7, Jennings 6, Bandalos 7, Clinch 7, Ellem 6, van Blerk 6, Murray 6, Stewart 7.

Scorers: Saad 35m, 63m and 68m, Edwards 28m for Sydney Olympic; Murray 40m for Apia.

Yellow card: van Blerk 79m for Apia.

Referee: J. Fraser 9.

Crowd: 1,461.

NSL is long term aim

New Tasmanian secretary Jablonski reviews scene

BY WALTER PLESS

MR GORDON Jablonski, the recently-appointed full-time general manager of the Tasmanian Soccer Federation (TSF) and Tasmanian Soccer Association (TSA), is relishing the challenges that soccer in Tasmania faces.

One of the ultimate aims for soccer in this State should be to have a team in the National League, Jablonski believes.

But, before that happens, there is much work to be done on the local scene and he is settling into his new position well and intends seeing that that work is done.

"As I'm picking up more and more of the administration duties, which I tried to avoid at the beginning, of course, it's more and more hours sitting behind the desk and doing the paper work," Jablonski said.

"But, I'm enjoying it and I think my position will help us to have more contact with the clubs in general, and to bring about a greater feeling of co-operation.

"My immediate or short term aim is to get the office administration running and to get everything on a more clockwork basis than it is at the moment.

"My other immediate aim is to look at sponsorship because we have to look at the dollars we're bringing in.

"The ultimate or long term aim we have here at the TSF and TSA is to put an NSL side into the national competition, by picking up a franchise."

Mr Jablonski said he would be working on that idea within the next three to six months by seeking out potential sponsors.

He said the potential of soccer in this State was illustrated by the visit of George Best earlier this year.

"According to the newspaper reports, 2000 people turned up to watch Best play."

"The reason 2000 showed up there and only 500, for example, turn up for a game on Wednesday night is because in Tasmania the teams all know each other."

"We're a small State and everyone knows each other and I think we need to rebuild the



IAN BRUSASCO

games, and by making their better players available for promotional work.

Players can be sent into schools where youngsters can identify with them.

"The TSA is looking at a number of promotional activities, but they all need money to run them," he said.

"We have to lift the profile of the game and we'll soon start to see a slogan coming from this office that says: 'Soccer, it's more than just football'."

"We have the potential to go nation-wide and players have the opportunity to represent their country. That's a pretty good incentive for our top players."

LETTER

I am writing to express my disappointment on last week's Match of the Day program in regard to comments made by John Kosmina in regard to referee Chris Bainbridge.

Mr Bainbridge, in my opinion, has always penalised and punished foul play, and has been instrumental, along with Gary Power and Don Campbell, in going some way to rid our game of the thugs.

Maybe Mr Kosmina should look at the other end of the scale, and at the referee at Middle Park last Sunday, who I consider allowed 90 minutes of quite often 'brutal' play to go unpunished.

A lack of support from the public generally was Jablonski's major source of frustration at the moment.

He said that games were obviously not of NSL standard, but there were games of high quality and there are good coaches and players in evidence.

"I feel I'm standing on the edge of things at the moment and I'd like to get things rolling quicker," Jablonski said. "The speed at which things are moving is frustrating, but we can't do it any quicker."

"As Ian Brusasco said here recently, we can't run before we can walk and we have to do things slowly, otherwise we'll just end up five years down the track with the same situation we've got now, having gone right up and right back down again."

According to Jablonski, clubs can help the situation by getting supporters along to

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Bebeto, Mazinho, Careca...

Brazilian superstars favour families, investing, hobbies

BRAZIL's top players are expected to produce some of the most exuberant soccer at the World Cup finals, but off the field they avoid life-styles usually associated with stardom.

Most of them dedicate their spare time to their families, invest their money in property and indulge in hobbies such as breeding exotic animals, reading the Bible or collecting cars.

Striker Bebeto's favourite pastime is looking after a mini-zoo at his parents' home in Rio, where he keeps two dogs, several prize-winning cats, turtles and a variety of noisy macaws.

He does not drink or smoke and says he likes to spend his free time with his family.

Bebeto, whose full name is Jose Roberto Gama de Oliveira, was largely unknown outside Brazil until last year when he scored six goals during the South American championship in July and finished the year with 12 goals in 19 games for his country.

The performance earned him the attention of Europe's top clubs and he looks certain to be sold abroad when the contract with his club Vasco da Gama expires in August.

Originally from Salvador in north-east Brazil, he was brought to Rio by Flamengo in

1983 and stayed there until moving to Vasco last July.

He has used the money made from football to buy a house in Rio for his parents and five brothers and sisters so he can be near them. But he wants to play in Europe "to guarantee my financial independence."

Full-back Mazinho is another who was brought from the north-east to develop his career in Rio.

Mazinho left home in the state of Paraiba to complete a trial with Vasco where he has stayed ever since.

Now 23, he has used the money earned from football to help his family improve their standard of living.

The remainder of Careca's income is invested in property.

He owns six apartments in Sao Paulo, a penthouse in the city of Campinas and land in Ubatuba, on the coast north of Sao Paulo.

"Football has not made me a rich man, but it has helped to guarantee the future of my family," he said.

Regarded as one of the best forwards in the world, Careca is one of Brazil's survivors from the last World Cup.

He missed the South American championship last year through injury, but returned in time for the World Cup qualifiers and scored four goals in one match against Venezuela.

Mazinho, whose full



CARECA (left) has a passion for cars and has invested wisely in real estate. He is unlikely to finish destitute like his great predecessor Garrincha. He is already wealthier than Pele despite his denials but unlike the great one has no political ambitions — at least not for now. More than ever he will be the Brazilian striker to watch in Italy as they attempt to win a fourth World Cup.

The remarkable career of Dr Josef Venglos



JOE VENGLOS

WHO IS Joe Venglos or more correctly Dr. Josef Venglos?

For those not familiar with the popular Joe during his coaching stint here in Australia in the mid sixties, including a spell with the Socceroos in 1967, the FIFA World Cup book for the '86 Mexico World Cup lists Joe as follows:

This football professor from Bratislava played for Slovan from 1954 to 1966.

He won the National Championship twice and the Cup three times.

He played 26 times for the Czechoslovakian national team.

He coached Slovan Bratislava from 1973 to 1976 and in 1972 he led the under 23 team to the European championship victory.

He was assistant coach of the Czech

national team which beat the then World Champions, West Germany in the final of the 1976 European Championship.

Then he was the coach of the Czech national team from 1978 till 1982, leading Czechoslovakia to the World Cup finals in Spain in 1982.

He was next coach of the Malaysian national team.

Dr Venglos has been a member of the FIFA Technical Study group since 1979, and one of six coaches responsible for the production of the technical report on the 1986 World Cup in Mexico.

Throw in a Bachelor of Physical Education, a Doctorate of Philosophy and coach of Czechoslovakia in the forthcoming World Cup in Italy and you have a brief background of just who Dr Josef Venglos is...

1981 WYC to World Cup

Players who appeared in the 1981 World Youth Championship who are likely to feature in the forthcoming World Cup in Italy...

Jorge Burruchaga (Argentina), Nestor Clausen (Argentina), Carlos Tapia (Argentina), Neil Webb (England), Kim Sam Soo (Korea), Kang Deuk (Korea), Chol Soon Ho (Korea), Batista (Uruguay), Francescoli (Uruguay), Aguilera (Uruguay), Da Silva (Uruguay), Gutierrez (Uruguay).

Josimar and Julio Cesar (Brazil), members of Brazil's 1986 World Cup squad, were also in Australia in 1981.

Canberra radio reports soccer

A reminder that a fifteen minute soccer report on all the week's happenings both here and overseas can be heard on Canberra's radio station 2SSSF on Saturday mornings at 8.15am.

Abonyi — Phillips link

Former Socceroo great Attila Abonyi has made a comeback... playing alongside the brother of Sydney Olympic star Gary Phillips in the Sawtell team in the Coffs Harbour first division.

THE

JOHNNY
WARREN

COLUMN



Poisoned Pen

WHO needs enemies when we have editorial content like the following appearing in the Brisbane Courier Mail.

"There are bound to be knocks in a rough and tumble contact sport (like Rugby League).

Virtually everyone has a television.

If they want to watch namby-pamby

behaviour they can tune into the English soccer, where 22 actors are rostered for 80 minutes (sic) practice at theatrical death throes, the cue for which is a tap on the knee (for even more drama watch while the goalies learn how to dive dramatically to the right when Blind Freddy can see that the oversized ping pong ball is flying into the left of the net).

The Johnny Warren story

JOHNNY Warren needs no introduction in soccer circles, having been captain of the Socceroos for eight years between 1966 and 1972.

He led Australia through three World Cup campaigns, including a major involvement in the Socceroos' 1974 World Cup Finals appearance.

Soccer is Johnny Warren's life, with over 40 international appearances in countries like Mexico, Japan, Greece, New Zealand and the UK, plus over 400 domestic First Division matches.

As well as a Bachelor of Economics, he holds a FIFA Coaching Certificate (the only Australian to do so) and is soccer's representative in the NSW Sporting Hall of Fame.

His services to the game were acknowledged in 1973 when he became the first soccer identity to be presented with an MBE.

In 1988 he was one of 200 sports stars to be inducted in the Australian Sports Hall of Fame.

Warren's current soccer commitments are more behind the scenes.

In 1979 he helped promote the successful Australian tour by the New York Cosmos.

He was vital in establishing Canberra City in the National Soccer League, runs coaching clinics for young players and has a successful sports promotions consultancy.

As a columnist, Johnny contributes to the Sydney Morning Herald, Sun-Herald and Australian Soccer Weekly, plus radio stations 2UE Sydney and 2CC Canberra.

His involvement with SBS-TV began in 1980.

He has since commentated several major internationals including Australia's recent World Cup campaign, the Young Socceroos in the USSR and as a studio guest during the network's live telecasts of the 1986 Mexico World Cup Finals.

He also hosted the original series of 'Captain Socceroo'.

Johnny is now a regular feature of SBS Television's soccer telecasts, an important member of the SBS World Cup Presentation Team and host of the 1990 'Captain Socceroo' series.

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Four goals in 11-minute spree!

Wollongong Macs whip BHP Australs

BY PAUL GOODWIN

THE Newcastle side was leading 2-0 with only 11 minutes remaining and yet managed to lose this game to a depleted Wollongong Macedonia 2-4.

Robbie Porter put the Austral boys in front of the 26th minute, getting his head to a chip pass by Naumov when the defence had failed to fully clear Naumov's original cross.

Mazecki had a fine game in goal for the Wollongong side, but could not prevent Doug Elphick from making it 2-0 in the 32nd minute.

Wayne Bailey always looked a threat on his speedy runs upfield and made a perfect cross for Elphick to shoot from close range with the perfect result.

The game continued well into the second half with the Newcastle side apparently in full command, but Wollongong stuck to their task and were a side waiting for their opportunity to come, should Austral slip up.

Robbie Porter had



Newcastle's Doug Elphick (right) in action against Rockdale Ilinden last season. He scored a goal against Wollongong Macedonia last weekend.

the ideal chance to put his side beyond reach when he won a penalty in the 77th minute.

Porter was brought down in the box by Darren Galway, but hit his spot kick weakly and the keeper made a tidy save.

In the 79th minute, Zoran Kolovski took advantage of a defensive error in the Newcastle side, robbing Devon of possession and finishing nicely.

That meant a ray of hope for the Mac-

Kosmina prominent in Sutherland's win

ANOTHER solid display by Sutherland at Seymour Shaw Park yielded a 3-1 win over Avala, leaving the Sharks unbeaten, albeit after completing just two matches to date.

Scott Leney broke on the left side, which

had been left exceptionally heavy on an otherwise ideal pitch, and sent over a good cross after beating two defenders.

John Kosmina met the ball with a far post header in the 34th minute to put the home side one up.

In the 73rd minute Harry Christodoulou made a strong break when put through and managed to score his side's second, despite a late lunge by Atlasic, which resulted in the Avala player receiving his marching orders.

Avala pulled one back when Kuc was allowed to waltz past a slumbering defence in the 85th minute and slot the ball home.

Sutherland restored their two-goal margin when substitute Grant Bard took the ball forward, before passing to Kosmina, who laid on the chance for defender Robbie Sellar to crack his second goal in two games.

SUTHERLAND: Dart, Edmunds, Sellar, Terry, Biscaya, Ensor, Hutcheon (Rothwell), Christodoulou (Bard), Kosmina, Sharp, Leney. AVALA: Rodic, Radic, Cugat, Bruker, Vrankovic, Nastoski, Vasic, Benitez, Kuc, Atlasic, Welch.

Results

Group A

Inter-Monaro 0 Rockdale Ilinden 2 (Bedoni, Deveridge), Canberra Croatia v Warringah-Freshwater (report next week), Polonia v Canterbury Marrickville postponed.

Group B

BHP Austral 2 (Porter, Elphick), Wollongong Macedonia 4 (Kolovski, Tholnithwaite, Caban, Cerro), Sydney Macedonia v North Shore United postponed, Sutherland 3 (Kosmina, Christodoulou, Sellar) Avala 1 (Kuc).

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Team work wins it for Rockdale

BY GRAHAM COOKE



GIAMPAOLO

ROCKDALE Ilinden gave Inter Monaro a lesson in a teamwork and tactics in its 2-0 NSW Cup win over the Queanbeyan side at the Marco Polo Ground on Saturday.

A now-confident Wollongong pressed home their good fortune and Tony Caban put his side in front in the 86th minute with a good goal, before Gus Cerro made it 4-2 with just a minute to play.

Although missing Simon Brandt from the starting line-up, it was almost a full-strength Austral team and the down-on-power Wollongong returned home to a rousing reception after this upset result.



MICHAEL DEVON
(Newcastle Austral)

BHP AUSTRAL: Carter, Bowen, Jones, Boogaard, Tredinnick, Gresham, Devon, Porter, Bailey, Naumov, Elphick.

WOLLONGONG MACEDONIA: Mazecki, Matthew Bourke, Shaw, Galway, Martin Bourke, Zoran Nastoski, Kolovski, Sandy, Cerro, Damico, Thorntwaite, (subs T. Caban, Dimov).

Goalies' Handbook

WALTER Gagg, head of FIFA's Technical Department, has endorsed the Goalkeepers' Handbook, written by Steve Darby.

The book was written with an eye to the needs of coaches, teachers, parents and players.

Darby himself played in goal in the Middle East and Australia, and is currently the Australian national women's team coach.

He is a full-time coaching consultant with the Australian Sports Commission in Canberra and is completing a masters' degree at the Canberra CAE.

In the soccer discipline he holds an FA full licence, a FIFA Instructor Award and is an ASF staff coach.

The goalkeeping manual includes chapters on equipment, technique, fitness and training routines.

The handbook is available for \$10 inclusive from State Federations or 11 Connelly Place, Emu Ridge, Canberra ACT 2619.

Wilson had another opportunity, this time with his head, but the ball went the same way, then Bryant turned the ball into the path of Michael Lardis, who also went wide.

Monaro has now played three consecutive games without scoring and the strike force, admittedly minus the inspiration of Baz Giampaolo, looks perilously short of ideas on how it might end this state of affairs.

In recent times, the defence has provided a partial solution by keeping games within the reach of a single goal, but on Saturday it too had an off-day.

Both Rockdale's goals could have been prevented and to cap an unhappy game for the home club Steve Bryant received his marching orders in the 52nd minute after a verbal exchange with referee Carl Thayer.

Finally, the home side could work out no answer to Rockdale's tactic of squeezing play into the middle of the field by use of the offside trap, then attacking in numbers.

Rockdale took the lead after 10 minutes.

Bruno Beddoni penetrated on the right then was given time to choose his shot before placing the ball along the ground, past an exposed Steve Hoszowski, into the far corner of the net.

The visitors went looking for more — and should have found it when Peter Willis' corner went to Darren Wilson, free in the box, but the defender failed to punish the error by blazing well over the bar.

INTER MONARO: Hoszowski, Grassick, Ambrosino, Bryant (sent off), B. Monterosso (Djordjieski 14), Danielle, Carbone, Fernandez, Popovich, Janke (Marcic 83), Chicco (B. Monterosso 83).

ROCKDALE ILINDEN: Warren, Willis, Segreto, Wilson, Buchanan, Campbell, Deveridge, McKie, Beddoni, Gardikis, Porter.

NEW SOUTH WALES

CHALLENGE CUP

Inter Monaro v Rockdale
BHP Austral v Wollongong Mac

Polonia v Canterbury

Sutherland v Avala

Sydney Mac v North Shore

SECOND DIVISION

Central Coast v Manly Warringah

Auburn Yugal v Orange Waratahs

Waverley v Rosebery

Dulwich Hill v Granville Chile

Fairfield City v Gladesville H'by

Southern District v Petersham

THIRD DIVISION

Uni of NSW v Lemnos Allstars

Bankstown v North Ryde RSL

Mt Pritchard v Cyprus United

Concordia v Canterbury & Dist

Bathurst '75 v Hills United

West Wenders v Port Hacking

FEDERATION LEAGUE FOUR

Colo Colo v Rooty Hill

Concord Juniors v Hawkesbury Dist

Spanish Club v Amcliffe

Hadjuk Rangers v SSC Zagreb

Belmore Hercules v Nineveh Eagles

Transandinos v Croatia Syd Jnr

FEDERATION LEAGUE FIVE

Prospect United v Macquarie Uni

GNS United v Chile Sports

West Dist Hellas v Ashour Star

Sporting Peru v Lithgow Workmen

Alexander v CSI Schofields

FEDERATION LEAGUE SIX

Assyrian v Liverpool City

Pagewood Botany v Liverpool Olympic

Fogolar Furlan v Balmain

Pointain Eagles v New Welcome Sport

Abruzzi v Penrith

D-2 6-1
2-4 3-0
cancelled

3-1 1-1
cancelled

2-3 2-1
3-1 1-2
1-1 2-4
0-1 1-0

1-2 4-1
cancelled
cancelled
cancelled
cancelled

2-3 2-1
3-1 2-2
1-1 2-4
0-1 1-0

1-2 4-1
cancelled
cancelled
cancelled
cancelled

2-1 0-2
cancelled
3-3 0-1
cancelled
cancelled
7-1 3-0

2-0 2-3
1-1 2-4
6-0 3-0
1-0 0-0
4-1 5-3

1-0 1-8
4-2 2-2
cancelled

0-3 3-2
2-3 3-2

(Wed April 18 Waverley v Petersham Sydney Athletic Field 6.15pm)
All games kick-off 3pm with U18 at 1pm, with BHP Austral 2.30pm and 12.30pm, unless otherwise stated.

See State League action this week!

Victorians covet National League honours

VICTORIAN soccer wants and probably needs an NSL title. It has been five years since the National Soccer League championship last came south.

Five long and bleak years — when real achievements by Victorian teams have been few and far between.

In that period there have been at too few sparks of hope from the Melbourne NSL contingent.

Preston's heroic jump from last to runner-up bid in 1987 kept us interested for a time, but the then Ernie Merrick-coached Connor Reserve team was never going to catch runaway title winner Atpa Leichhardt.

In '88 South Melbourne Helas at times seemed to touch on the verge of greatness but wanted in two straight finals losses.

Last season a disastrous final day of the home and away season cost Melbourne Croatia the double chance, and we had to contend with two Melbourne teams cutting each other's throats in the elimination final.

And anyway, no one was equipped to handle the Marconi juggernaut in the end.

Melbourne clubs' performances have been mediocre second rate and third, and all the time the spectre of Sydney's physical and mental domination of the league has loomed larger.

Melbourne has probably gone backwards — with the exception of an impressive array of junior talent to have come through the ranks.

Clubs have crashed and, since, the 1985 title went the way of Brunswick Juventus. Victoria has lost Melbourne City JUST, Green Gully, Heidelberg (twice) and Juventus itself from the NSL scene.

ZELJKO ADZIC

None look set for a quick return and, worse still, their return to the local scene has done little to bolster the ailing State League.

The Victorian scene and its much-publi-

GREG BLAKE LAYS MELBOURNE'S NSL ASPIRATIONS RIGHT ON THE LINE

cised problems of recent years indicate that Melbourne's local competitions, at least the major ones, are in as much turmoil as they've ever been.

The picture is bleak — unless the turn of the decade can bring about a dramatic reversal in fortunes.

Hopes Spring ...

That is why we are pinning so many hopes on Melbourne Croatia and South Melbourne as they head into the 1990 finals series.

An NSL title in 1990 wouldn't cure the ills of the game down south but my word, it would be a change for the better.

The sight of Jo Biskic or Angie Postecogou lifting the championship trophy in front of a packed gallery at Olympic Park might just be uplifting enough to get us through another cold winter of plodding State League football.

It might be a heavy burden to bear, but the hopes of Melbourne's soccer fraternity rest with Souths and Croatia in the next few weeks.

Of the pair, I'm convinced Croatia is the better equipped to do the job despite the club's relatively poor record in the big matches.

ABC commentator Peter Gee probably summed Croatia up recently on a Monday night broadcast as he watched the red machine squander opportunity after opportunity in a game against Sunshine George Cross.

"For Melbourne Croatia this has been a season of lost opportunities," Gee said.

And despite an impressive 48 goals in 24 matches to date there can be no better summation of Croatia's season — or last season at that.

I fear for what it could do to other sides if it ever got going as one suspects it could.

But potential is only ever going to remain potential unless the team does produce the goods.

Restoration

Melbourne Croatia plays football like a whirlwind, and often it looks to be playing a class ahead of its often pedestrian forward brigade.

Melbourne Croatia is the team that can restore Melbourne's credibility and pride in 1990 but whoever gets



Peter Tsolakis on the ball against Sunshine, with South Melbourne team mate Paul Wade looking on.

Pic: JOHN ERMIDIS

the nod up front in the finals must produce an outstanding effort that has been lacking this season.

Too much is left to probably the best midfield in the NSL today.

You cannot fault Adzic, Milosevic, Biskic and deputies Duzet and Salach.

Davidson and the irrepressible Hannah and Co. shore up a tightly knitted defence and 'Davo' so often works in to become almost a fifth midfielder going forward.

As a genuine front man Markovski is like an explosion waiting to happen and I hope he gets that role during the play-offs.

His presence takes some of the pressure from the men who are going to have to produce some of the best football of their lives if Croatia is to land the trophy.

Kelic and Awanife are Croatia's closest things to genuine front men but both, at their worst, can look ungainly and awkward.

At their best they can be lethal.

Croatia boasts as good a multi-pronged attack as Marconi on its day but can it be relied upon to fire up under finals pressure?

1990 might have been Croatia's year of missed chances going into the finals but let's hope it doesn't miss the biggest opportunity of all and the chance for glory.

It mightn't come again, particularly without the shining light of Adzic next season.

Make no mistake

isn't the only focal point in attack.

The big barnstormer Souths was crying for two years ago has appeared in the form of Taliadoros whilst wee man Tsolakis has had an exceptional year.

Souths was loathe to acknowledge John Kosmina's early season jibes at the apparent "Taziness" of the midfield.

But I do detect that, perhaps even without realising, some of their players not renowned for their work-rate have been working furiously in the engine room during their recent unbeaten run.

Wade's efforts were never in question but now he has a skilled bunch of workers and providers around him as well.

No team plays as well as Souths does when its confidence is high and, like Croatia, the Middle Park boys must be bubbling after a good recent spell and with a surprisingly small injury list.

It doesn't have Croatia's depth but its overall skill leaves it out in front on its own.

If Hellas has a weakness it is still in defence where the team floundered badly last year.

But although still prone to being found out down the flanks on occasion the addition of the durable Durakovic has done much to strengthen South Melbourne.

His fierce determination and sometimes uncanny sense of anticipation complements the rock-steadiness and complete supremacy in the air of Blair.

Both teams boast at least some finals experience so neither will go into the play-offs without some knowledge of the cut-throat nature of finals football.

The experience might prove invaluable against the might of finals-hardened Marconi.

I'm an optimist, always have been but it is not overly optimistic to suggest that Melbourne now has its best chance of winning the ultimate prize for the first time since 1985.

With at least one Melbourne team certain of the double chance we await the finals with fingers crossed.

PERSONALITY PLAYER

GEORGE JOLEVSKI
(Preston Makedonia)



FULL NAME: George Jolevski
CLUB: Preston Makedonia
BIRTHPLACE & DATE: Melbourne, 26 3 69
MARRIED: No
HOME: Thomastown, Melbourne
NICKNAME: Jolly
CAR: Ford Capri
OCCUPATION: Sales admin. officer at Telecom
PREVIOUS CLUBS: Fawkner Preston Juniors
FAVOURITE PLAYERS: Diego Maradona and John Barnes
FAVOURITE LOCAL PLAYERS: Mark Talach, Paul Trimboli, Oscar Crino and Zlatko Nastevski
MOST DIFFICULT OPPONENT: The next one
FAVOURITE GROUND: Connor Reserve
MOST MEMORABLE GAME: For the Socceroos against Moscow Torpedo in Melbourne
BIGGEST THRILL: Becoming a Socceroo
BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: Missing the Top Five this year
FAVOURITE POSITION: Centre forward!
FAVOURITE OTHER SPORTS: Tennis and golf with Joe Markovac
FAVOURITE FOOD: Lasagne
FAVOURITE DRINK: Orange juice
FAVOURITE MUSIC: The Rolling Stones and anything current
FAVOURITE TV SHOW: The Wonder Years
FAVOURITE MOVIE: Driving Miss Daisy
BEST FRIEND: Peter Donis and you know who (no we don't Ed)
BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER: My father and family as well as Andon Donevski
WORST INJURY: Torn thigh muscle — missed six weeks
AMBITIONS: To succeed in anything I do
PRE-MATCH SUPERSTITIONS: None
BOOT TYPE: D adora
MOST PROMISING TEAM MATE: Joe Markovac
PERSON YOU'D MOST LIKE TO MEET: Whoever presents the NSL championship trophy

— GREG BLAKE

Hennessey at Juve

Former Melbourne Croatia, Heidelberg and Knox City boss Terry Hennessey is the new coach of ailing State League club Brunswick Juventus. Hennessey replaces "retrenched" Roberto Vieri. Billy Rogers, the former club champion who walked out late last year after winning and subsequently losing the senior job, has a made welcome return as Hennessey's assistant.

Let's have a genuine clean up at last

FRANK SCICLUNA ADVOCATES BOLD INITIATIVES TO STAMP OUT THUGS

ONCE again, a few hundred politically motivated morons have succeeded in dragging the name of the game I love through the lowest of gutters.

In the process they have effectively undone in a matter of a few idiotic minutes all the painfully slow progress which has been gained by the efforts of the majority of our decent clubs over recent years.

By the time these comments are published, thousands of words would have already been said and written in all of our media.

Nevertheless, those disgusting events of soccer's blackest day at St George Stadium deserve the strongest condemnation at every opportunity.

It's only been a few short months since similar unsavoury scenes were beamed throughout the country on national television, and shown on the front pages of our mass circulation daily newspapers following the fracas at Olympic Park involving Melbourne Croatia and South Melbourne.

Undoubtedly, some of the thugs who created this latest fiasco at the match between Sydney Olympic and Preston were also party to another ugly flare up in the corresponding fixture last year.

Unless fearless and meaningful action is taken *NOW* by soccer administrators, it can only be a matter of time before this great game of football is once again subjected to the same degradation which never fails to follow such incidents.

Self righteous claims of so called anti-soccer media bias which supposedly blows the slight-

est incident out of all proportion is pure and utter garbage, borne out of self preserving instincts and sheer blindness to reality.

Let's get one thing perfectly clear: the violence associated with soccer in this country does in no way, shape or

give the impression that their major reason for existence is to simply continue fostering the continuation of this traditional hatred.

Well, in my opinion, the time has now come to eradicate this distasteful stupidity. ENOUGH IS ENOUGH.

greatest game on earth in peace.

The people who continuously perpetrate their violent activities have cost football its very dignity and forced it to endure more than its fair share of heartache by their determination to use the code

It's a debatable argument, but one worthy of deep consideration that had the competition points deducted from the two Melbourne clubs earlier this season been allowed to stand, this latest incident may well have been avoided.

A valuable opportunity

on commercial television.

Typically all the goodwill engendered from their endeavours was washed down the drain in the aftermath of the horrific publicity created by the sickening events at Rockdale.

Bite the bullet

That old emotive question of whether clubs should be forced to completely drop all ethnic names need no longer even to be asked. The bullet has got to be firmly bitten with every club directed to assume a district affiliated identity before the start of next season — no ifs, ands, maybes or waiting for Bradley Reports.

Why must South Melbourne have Hellas tacked to the end of their name, why can't Adelaide Hellas simply go back to West Adelaide?

It certainly has not done any harm for neighbouring Adelaide City to do away with the old Juventus.

Is the name of Croatia really necessary and would the events at St George still have taken place had Preston been forced to drop the Makedoma label, a few years ago?

Somehow I doubt it.

The powers that be must supply the lead. If any club cannot accept such a directive they can simply get out and make way for someone else who will.

Clubs which have invested in their own and soccer's future in this country should, for their own sake, support every effort to clean up the game's image otherwise, they may find their long term future placed in jeopardy.

Empty threats of heavy penalties — which are rarely imposed — does little more than encourage further violence by hooligans who are comfortable in the knowledge that their clubs and themselves are immune from any real punishment.

It's a means of cheap political point scoring.

Their antics are the major cause for the game's lack of progress and gradual stagnation.

Soccer's hierarchy can no longer afford to sweep the whole sorry mess under the carpet or fear of upsetting the lonely vocal minority.

Empty threats of heavy penalties — which are rarely imposed — does little more than encourage further violence by hooligans who are comfortable in the knowledge that their clubs and themselves are immune from any real punishment.

On the very same day that this latest riot took place NSL champions Marconi Bankfield was entertaining Adelaide City in front of a bumper crowd after taking the initiative of spending thousands of dollars to promote the match



John Constantine

As a result of such action, soccer may even start to get the thousands of genuine followers and their families coming back to the terraces.

Newly elected ASE president John Constantine was witness to the whole ugly affair at St George and was thinking seriously about forcing the same old tired cliches such as the whole thing being nothing more than a storm in a teacup.

Instead, he publicly apologised to the Australian sporting public for that disgraceful incident and pledged that every step will be taken to ensure such happenings are stamped out once and for all.

Let's all hope and pray that he has the strength to stand by his commitments.

Constantine will certainly carry the total support of everyone even remotely associated with this great game of ours.

If he can succeed in doing nothing else but strip the code of its ethnic and political stigma during his first term in office he will forever be remembered as the man who helped steer Australian soccer out of the deep mire it has sunk in.

OOO



ADZIC SHOCK
Melbourne Croatia midfield wizard Zeljko 'Gerry' Adzic could be playing his last season of NSL football. He has admitted that he will leave Australia at the end of the current season "for a while" and he wants to bow out with a championship medal. Adzic, the Croatia dynamo who helped lift the club into successive finals series after joining the club from Canada, will return to native Yugoslavia for a break at the end of the season. But the suggestion is that the former Dynamo Zagreb star is being chased by another Yugoslav first division club.

NSL REFEREES' OCCUPATION REGISTER

STATE	NAME	D.O.B.	OCCUPATION
NSW	Richard Lorenc	3.12.51	COURIER
	Gary Power	17.8.51	REFEREES' & SCHOOLS DEVELOPMENT OFFICER — NEW SOUTH WALES SOCCER FEDERATION
	John McConnell	16.3.61	ACCOUNTANT RECKITT & COLEMAN
	Peter Spiers	27.2.48	CLIENT SERVICES MANAGER — PAXUS
	Manny Louis	10.6.50	COMPANY DIRECTOR — GEORGES PROV DORS
SA	Jim Rossis	18.1.43	SALES CONSULTANT — ART CERAMIC TILES
	Tom McRoe	18.11.48	PRODUCTION ENGINEER — BRITISH AEROSPACE
QLD	Br Monteverde	30.1.45	MANAGING DIRECTOR HY MEC ENGINEERING
ACT	Dave Wicks	29.5.52	RESEARCH BIOLOGIST — AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY
WA	Barry Harwood	14.12.41	LECTURER IN PHYSICAL THERAPY BARRY HARWOOD STUDY CENTRE
NTH	Jim Reeves	10.6.40	COUNCIL OFFICIAL NEWCASTLE COUNCIL
SW	Chris Bambridge	1.1.77	CREDIT MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT WN PETERSON & ASSOC
	Dennis Voutsinas	15.7.43	SENIOR TECHNICIAN TELECOM
	John Fraser	7.5.51	PABX COMMUNICATIONS CONSULTANT — TELECOM
	John Santa Isabel	21.11.53	BANK MANAGER WESTPAC

DENNIS VOUTSINAS

Superstar qualities vital for soccer's future

BY MIKE JONKSON

A lightweight sport does not normally attract heavyweight people.

This has been one of the many catch 22 problems which has afflicted soccer in Australia over the years.

Some heavyweight people have flirted with Australian soccer and eventually left it.

One is Frank Lowy, ex Sydney City president, now one of Australia's richest men and totally divorced from soccer.

Another is England 'B' international, Jim Kelly, now a millionaire in Eng and

Some of the heavyweights who did stay on are Alex Pongrass, president of St George BSC, and Andrew Lederer, Sydney City's guiding star, also St George manager-coach Frank Arok.

Similarly in the media, heavyweight professionals gravitate away from soccer upward to the major sports.

Sydney cricket writer Phil Wilkins is one who comes to mind.

He like several other

top sports journalists earned his craft in the soccer arena.

He did so with the Sydney Morning Herald, who currently employ the excellent Mike Cockerill as its soccer writer — how long will Mike remain with us?

However, as soccer is gradually evolving upward, it continues to throw up outstanding talent.

Recent examples are the gifted manager-coach Berti Mariani.

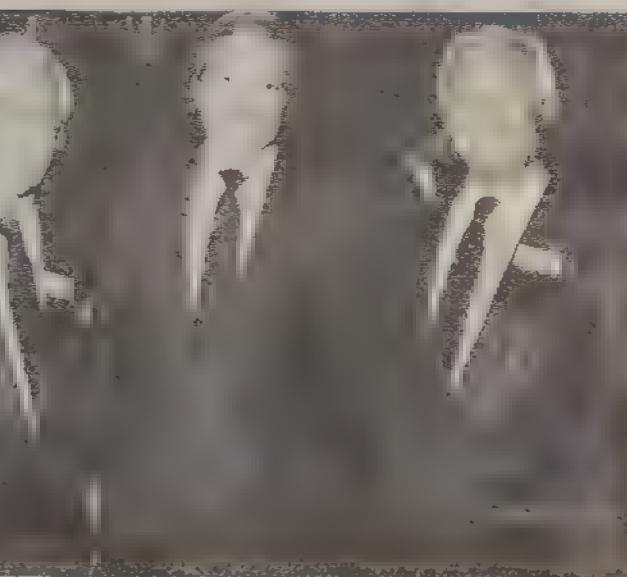
Another is John Kosmina.

The other night watching and listening to John Kosmina on the ABC's Big Match television programme, my mind went back to 1977 when 'Kossie' was about 20 years old.

As manager-coach of Adelaide Hellas I took him to the Coca-Cola Bottling Co in Adelaide, where we had arranged to find employment for him.

His job involved looking over the bottles as they rattled around the conveyor system at Coca-Cola Bottlers.

John was already a bit of a name in Adelaide and they were



Andrew Lederer (left) and Alex Pongrass (right) with NSW Premier Nick Greiner — both soccer men are still loyal to the code.

happy to have him, though the menial nature of the work did not seem inviting.

John, a bit of a tearaway in those days, did not seem to mind.

Now in his mid thirties, married with children, former captain of the Socceros and with several years as a representative for sports goods and business management firms at the back of him, he presents knowledge, intelli-

gence, and self assurance on television that is quite impressive.

He will be good for our soccer.

Already, good for our soccer and increasingly so is Berti Mariani.

At 33 he has a huge amount of ability to offer our game, as manager-coach and later on as administrator.

Like Frank Arok, he is highly intelligent and multi-talented.

Given Arok's drive, he will have an enormous impact on our game.

Frank Arok's brilliance and years of experience must not be lost to Australian soccer.

He will continue to coach and manage the soccer affairs of St George for the next year or two, but his energy and intellectual capacity extends beyond that.

Dr Bradley should

meet with him and listen to his views on our games.

Arok is a super-heavyweight who likes to have challenges. Let us present him with some.

Meanwhile, the full time apprentice innovation with young Paul Okon at Marconi is interesting.

It was tried, with several young players years ago at Western Suburbs Soccer Club in Sydney.

The scheme folded after a couple of years and later the club with



it.

Subsequently Sydney Croatia also flirted unsuccessfully with full-time players.

Marconi's record on most things has been one of greater success than Wests or Croatia.

Let us hope as Marconi hopes, that their scheme will, indeed, plug the soccer drain which is leaving our National League almost devoid of stars.



John Kosmina and Frank Arok.

16 BILLION CUP VIEWERS

by
TOM ANDERSON

A MAMMOTH world wide television audience estimated at 16 billion will watch the action from Italy in next year's World Cup Final series.

And sportstans in this country won't be left out — they'll see 180 hours of the greatest football the world has to offer on SBS when it is over, the Australian sporting season is to come on.

The series which starts on

June 8 and goes through to July 8 next year, will undoubtedly be the greatest television event ever seen on Australian television.

SBS will begin games in late at 1 am and 5 am, each day and follow it up with package highlights at prime time from 7 pm each evening.

The World Cup is the most prestigious tournament in sport and the Hounds from Italy promise to be the greatest.

Producer Cal Cull pulled the

rug from under the feet of

Australian men for the SBS team based in Rome will be Les Murray assisted by John Warren with Don Galati the World Cup producer, and a host of other top talent.

Les Murray is a Warwickshire man, knowing something about English football that may be interesting to the viewers.

Producer Galati pulled the

rug from under the feet of

and Cagliari.

The opening game will be

at the Giuseppe Meazza

Stadium in Milan on Friday,

June 8 with the final itself

at the Olimpico Stadium

in Rome on Sunday, June 10.

The Italian government

has loaned \$100 million

to the SBS to help it cover the

cost of the 16 billion

viewership.

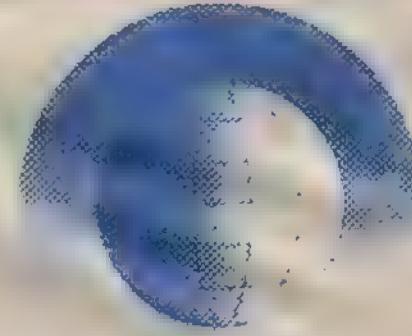
The Italian government

has loaned \$100 million

to the SBS to help it cover the

cost of the 16 billion

viewership.



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Les Murray

Les Murray is a Warwickshire man, knowing something about English football that may be interesting to the viewers.

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Chit Chat . . . Chit Chat . . . Chit Chat . . .

CANBERRA Croatia goalkeeper Anthony Giannasca has been helping out at the ACT Soccer Federation office, fitting in shifts with his university studies.

NICK Papallo has resigned as president and director of the Apia club. Papallo a Sydney lawyer, who is also chairman of the Italian Chamber of Commerce, will continue his duties as an NSL executive.

Papallo says he has enjoyed his 3 years in soccer but feels it's time to move on.

In recognition of his services, his fellow Apia directors honored him by making him an honorary life president of the club.

According to the South Melbourne Hellas constitution, anyone who completes the task of compiling an historical document on the club can be entitled to honorary life membership. Young scribe Petros Kosmopoulos completed a 385 page volume on the club's history six months ago and he's still waiting to hear from them. South Melbourne has also declined a golden opportunity to market the comprehensive history of the club compiled over three years by Kosmopoulos.

Despite no other records being kept by the club, he has been accorded no encouragement by Hellas to have the document printed and marketed.

Kosmopoulos is hoping to have his history printed with or without assistance from the club.

Victoria's State Super League should be up and running by 1991 if member clubs agree to the necessary constitutional changes at a VSF extraordinary general meeting on May 3. The changes would allow for the top 12 teams of the 1990 State League to form a Super Division with the remaining six, plus six promoted from division one left to form a State League First Division.

Talented, young Victorian coach and former NSL star Branko Culina is out of a job because he was as good as his word. Despite an impressive record with Victorian State League club St Albans last season, the club had failed to find form in the early going this year. On the eve of St Albans' recent clash with Frankston Pines Culina told the club he would resign if his club went down. They lost after taking an early lead and Culina carried out his threat. It's hard to see the former Rothmans Medal winner out of work for long.

Veteran - former Heidelberg and Preston star Claude Lucchesi has been given a new lease of life with current club Fawkner. The reprieved State League outfit is overjoyed

with Lucchesi's performances in the sweeper's role. Another 'old timer', former JUST favourite Zdravko Lujic, has thrilled the Fawkner fans with some brilliant displays as the club has signalled its intent on challenging for the State League title.

Tony Vrzina, the Sydney Croatia coach, denied that he is thinking of accepting an offer to return to Melbourne.

He said: "I am very happy here in Sydney. Having signed a contract for next season, I am not one to turn back on it."



Tony Vrzina

"Maybe, the rumour was fuelled by my stopping off in Melbourne after our recent trip to Adelaide."

"All I was doing there was tidying up ground arrangements for the Hajduk tour."

Vrzina is impressed by the magnificent Marconi set-up, and says he can see no reason why Sydney Croatia cannot emulate their deeds.

Former Sydney City and Hakoah official Bill Kadson has some tremendous Australian soccer records for sale. They include the entire issues of Soccer World from 1957 as well as Australian Soccer Weekly.

Various yearbooks include those issued in the days of the NSW Soccer Football Association, which preceded the NSW Soccer Federation. Interested parties can contact him on 332 3300 (B) or 32 1870 (H).

New grass sods have been laid in one goal area at St George Stadium. This will make play difficult if the current rainy conditions continue.

Indonesia's matches whilst in Sydney for a training camp involve Canberra in Canberra tonight (Wednesday April 18) and Northern NSW in Newcastle on Friday night.

FERENC PUSKAS, who will be watching the World Cup finals in Italy after a holiday in Spain, has been given carte blanche to secure a top European player to further boost South Melbourne's stocks next season. Club president George Vasilopoulos has given his star coach a free license to negotiate abroad. Puskas, incidentally, celebrated his 63rd birthday two weeks ago.

Apia coach Manfred Schaefer smiled and Blacktown City officials frowned when Apia midfielder Brian Ellam made his comeback game after injury. Ellam, who was retained in the reserve team in his days with the Demons, showed he will be a force in the future.

QNSL players this week submitted their votes for the QNSL Players' Player of the Year contest. The NSL office sent out 20 voting slips per club. Only players who have appeared in the QNSL this season can vote. Players cannot vote for team-mates or for themselves. They have to allocate three points to their first choice, two to the second and one to their third preferred player.

With Blacktown City back to the NSW State League, coach Tony Henderson is in no two minds over his requirements for dedication of players. "They have to be ready to give everything for the club or I don't want them," he said. Meanwhile soccer club president Greg Gingell is getting ready to sign up some newcomers who he says will make the grade. The new club secretary to replace Peter Thorne will be decided from the last three candidates shortly.

HELLAS coach Brian Garvey only will contemplate his future once his side is out of the NSL.

But Hellas could be without several players soon.

Big money buys Lee Sterrey. Kurt Reynolds, Richard Miranda and Billy Wright look sure to be on their way.

Key defender Robbie Slager will be returning to his old State League club Croatia.

ROBBIE Ironside and Gary Phillips will play on loan with Newcastle Austral BHP in this season's NSW State League. Blacktown



The "Quit" logo on Zarko Odzakovic's Blacktown City shirt has an additional meaning, as he prepares to return to Yugoslavia. His Australian career includes National League seasons with Preston Makedonia, Sydney Croatia and Blacktown City. For explosive power and skill he was one of the top imports of recent years. In addition he chalked up 14 national team appearances, with another six in non-international matches. ASW wishes Zarko a bright future on behalf of his many fans. — JANUSZ KAMMA Photo

City's Ralph Maier could also be headed north. While the NSW Federation has agreed to such arrangements, it's a different story in Victoria where the VSF will not allow NSL-State League crossovers.

HELLAS defender Martin Doak has been given a new lease on life — because he has cut out drinking beer.

The powerhouse Scottish import centre-back is starting to earn plaudits after being discarded earlier in the season.

"My normal playing weight is 12stone but I had ballooned up to 14st with drinking beer," said Doak.

"I am happy with the way I'm playing and am keen to stay to help Hellas any way I can."

The man who had the Brunswick Juventus job "as soon as he said he wanted it" has turned his back on the

former NSL club. Former Sunshine George Cross coach John Gardner was pencilled in as a certain starter for the job when Roberto Vieri was "retrenched" recently but Gardner, who has received an offer from NSL club Preston, told Juventus he wasn't interested.

"I believe there are some people who may not have been completely honest along the line. I have my own standards and that is why I am copping out," was Gardner's parting salvo to the club.

SOUTH MELBOURNE will be minus reliable fullback David Healy this weekend as he was booked along with Mehmet Durakovic in the Cup semi-final against Adelaide City.

The VSF is about to be dragged through court again along with Vic. State League club Northcote City

Heidelberg is taking legal proceedings against both after a loan deal between the two clubs involving midfielder Jon Burgess went wrong.

LES SCHENFLUG appears certain to be reappointed coach of the Young Socceroos, who later this year will be involved in Oceania qualifiers in Fiji for a berth in the 1991 finals in Portugal.

He is expected to be confirmed as full-time coach this week, mainly thanks to new ASF chairman John Constantine who is a big fan of the former Blacktown City coach.

Schenflug has done extremely well with the under 20s. Full marks to the ASF chairman for the welcome reappointment.

Schenflug's first task will be to select a team for a tournament in Indonesia in June.



Ivo Prskalo returned from Yugoslavia and took up his present post as assistant coach of Marconi. When previously in Australia, he made 13 appearances as a Socceroo, and he also played in the national colours another 13 times in non-international fixtures.

Thomastown loses unbeaten record

BY MARC BREKAN

THOMASTOWN, playing without inspirational player-coach Ken Murphy and suspended regulars Christaldo and Zemunic, lost their unbeaten League record as they crashed to middle of the table. Caulfield City 4-0 at Partridge Reserve.

Caulfield entered the match under the guidance of reserve team coach Billy Rae, first team coach John Margaritis having resigned prior to the match commencing.

Caulfield opened the scoring after 36 minutes when Steve Greenwood scored a hotly disputed goal. Thomastown feeling the ball was handled over the line. Unfortunately for the home side, everyone saw this except the referee.

Five minutes later Chris Taylor was brought down and Con Pappas stepped up to score from the penalty spot.

Two minutes before half-time, Dean Hennessey's attempted

clearance ended up in his own goal net to complete the home side misery.

Caulfield never looked in danger of losing and sealed the match 10 minutes from full time when Thomastown were caught on the break, Bill Tsiaos scoring with ease for his second of the season.

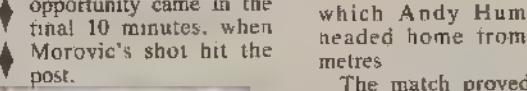
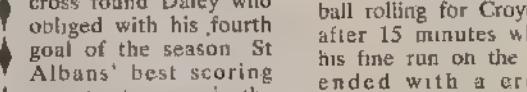
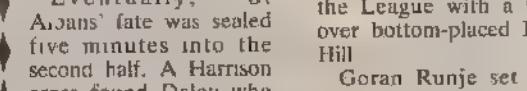
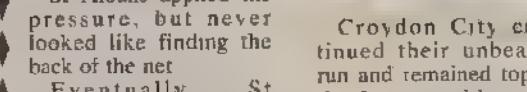
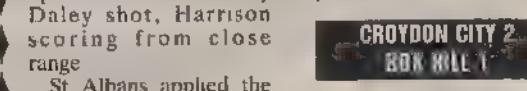
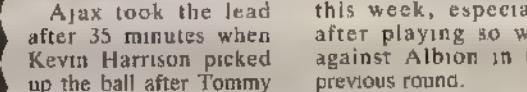
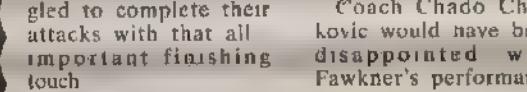
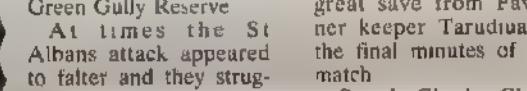
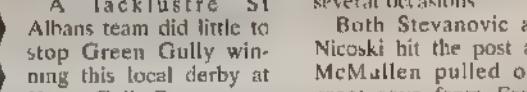
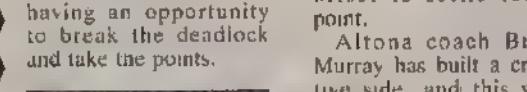
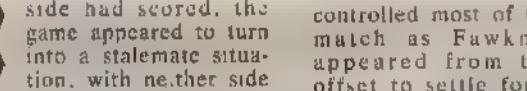
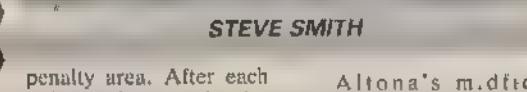
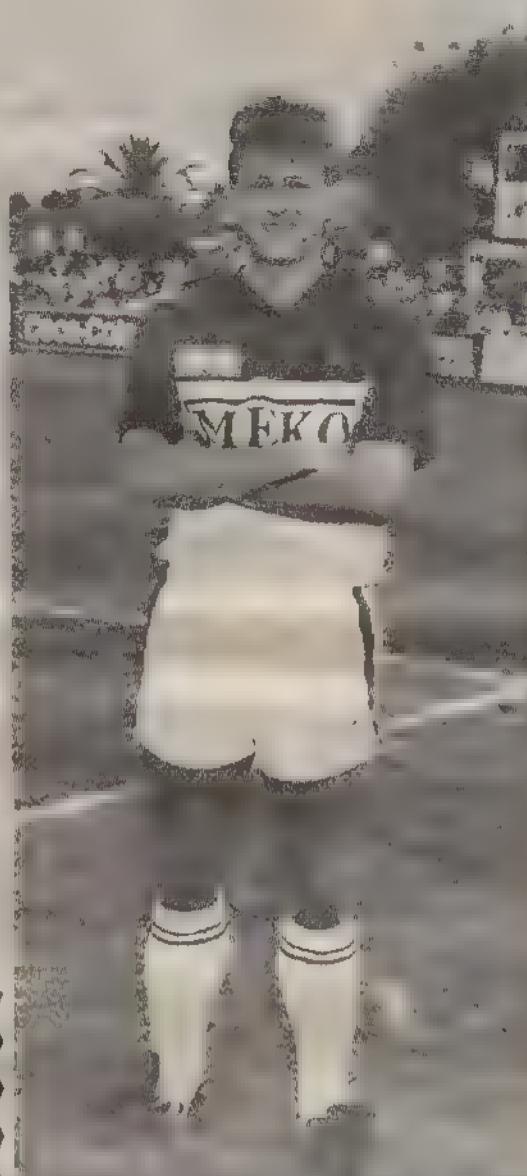
**MORWELL FALCONS 1
NORTHCOTE CITY 1**

An entertaining match was played between these two clubs, with a point shared a just result at the end of 90 minutes.

Morwell got off to an early lead when a Jimmy Nelson corner was headed in by Bruns after five minutes.

Morwell fielded reserve goalkeeper Alec Eacott in this match and coach Bob McLachlan would have been satisfied with his performance.

Northcote's early pressure paid dividends in the 10th minute when a poor Morwell clearance fell to Pedro Ramos who fired home from the edge of the



ings to both clubs.

After 20 minutes play in the second half Croydon scored their second goal. Intense pressure by the home side saw an Andy Humble shot deflected off a Box Hill defender into his own goal.

Box Hill scored before the end. A break in concentration by the home defence allowed McGaughie to pull one back, but by then Croydon had already laid claim to both points.

**BULLEEN 2
HEIDELBERG ALEX T**

Bulleen Veneto kept themselves in contention for the top league position with a fine win over Heidelberg, and have Darren Tuck to thank for providing them with the points.

Tuck took his goal tally to seven after this match.

Bulleen scored after 31 minutes. Michael Branov's long throw-in found Tuck whose shot flew past Heidelberg keeper Jeff Oliver. A minute before half-time Tuck made it 2-0 when he latched onto a long ball from Krajacic.

Bulleen were effective in marking striker Paul Lewis, who did little to trouble their defence.

Heidelberg pulled a goal back in the second half when substitute Stubbins scored a superb goal in the 60th minute.

However, this goal was only a consolation one as Heidelberg never really looked like taking the game to a draw.

Bulleen's score might have been higher had it not been for the fine performance of Oliver, who prevented Tuck from scoring a hat-trick by bringing him down and then saved Livingston's resulting penalty 10 minutes from full time.

**RINGWOOD CITY 1
JUVENTUS 4**

Juventus finally shrugged off their recent poor form and gave newly appointed coach Terry Hennessey a dream start as they swept aside Ringwood at Jubilee Park.

Former Preston striker Steve Smith scored twice and showed that he will be a valuable asset to Juventus in the future.

Smith scored five minutes before the interval when he headed a Shaun Lane cross.

Brunswick then scored three goals in 15 minutes as they ran amok through Ringwood's defence.

Smith made it 2-0 just after the break. Shaun Lane fired home his spotkick and Brian Nicolls' acute shot glanced off the post to give Juventus a commanding lead.

The match proved to be very physical and the referee was kept busy as he handed out six book-

ings to both clubs.

Ringwood relied on the offside trap to take the sting out of the Juventus attack.

Their moment of consolation came 10 minutes from full-time when John Corvan scored after Juventus were caught on the break.

**MELB. CITY JUST 0
MOOROOLBARK 0**

Mooroolbark survived continuous pressure from a spirited JUST side as both clubs battled to come to grips with Melbourne City's waterlogged pitch.

Mooroolbark could have taken an early lead through House, who pulled a good save from Spiros Kardamitis. The poor pitch conditions made taking a hazardious task and took much of the skill out of the match.

JUST have a fine player in young Sasha Belevinovski, who given a better pitch might well have scored a couple himself.

The home team's best scoring opportunity came in the second half when Navmovski misclicked his shot a couple of metres from the Mooroolbark goal-mouth with only the keeper to beat.

**FRANKSTON PINES 2
ALBION TURK 2**

For entertainment and excitement you could go no further than this match, for it had everything that a spectator could want from a soccer game.

Albion scored after 20 minutes through Peter Kadlecik who beat two players before firing home.

Azzopardi made it 2-0 from close range shortly afterwards.

Gordon Favale put in a fine performance, and his free was eventually picked up by Steve Douglas who scored Albion's third.

Favale's free-kick also led to Albion's fourth. His free kick found McLeod, whose flick header provided the perfect ball for George Gagic to net his first goal of the season.

Pines scored both their goals in the second half.

Douglas Hodgson scored in the 58th minute and player-coach Joe Sweeney scored the goal of the game with a 25 metre volley in the last 10 minutes.

Frankston were unfortunate to have Craig Miler taken off early in the first half with a knee injury. Their game appeared to falter when he left the field.

The home side's luck ran out later in the match when Steve Keenan was sent off, leaving Frankston to play out the match with nine men (both substitutes having already appeared).



Albion coach Ian Wallace said afterwards "The way we played, creating chances and dominating the play, we could have reached double figures."

This weekend

April 21: Altona Gate v Frankston Pines. Northcote City v Brunswick United Juventus. Mooroolbark v Morwell Falcons.

April 22: Albion Turk Gully v Green Gully. Box Hill v Fawkner. Bulleen v Croydon City. Heidelberg Alex v Caulfield City. St Albans v Melb. City JUST. Thomastown v Ringwood City.

Vic State League

Round 9

Albion v Melbourne JUST 0-0, Green Gully v Altona Gate 1-2, Frankston v Box Hill 1-1, Fawkner v Bulleen 0-1, Caulfield v Croydon 2-2, Northcote v Ringwood 2-2, Brunswick Juventus v Mooroolbark 1-0, Heidelberg v Thomastown 3-0, Morwell Falcons v St Albans 2-1.

Ladder

	P	W	D	F	A	PF	PA
Croydon	8	2	2	12	3	6	6
Bulleen	9	1	5	11	3	12	12
Green Gully	9	2	2	14	6	12	12
Albion	8	1	4	12	3	12	12
Thomastown	9	5	2	21	15	12	12
Mooroolbark	9	5	1	20	7	1	1
Fawkner	9	4	3	21	7	12	12
Morwell	8	4	3	21	8	11	11
Northcote	8	4	2	14	9	10	10
B. Juventus	9	3	4	12	8	12	12
Caulfield	9	3	2	12	13	8	8
JUST	9	2	1	8	9	11	8
Altona Gate	8	2	1	8	12	7	7
Ringwood	8	3	1	9	12	7	7
Mooroolbark	9	2	2	12	10	6	6
St Albans	9	2	6	10	7	4	4
Frankston Pines	9	2	0	7	19	4	4
Box Hill	9	2	2	8	23	2	2



YOUTH

R8 Monday April 16 — U13, 14, 15, 17
DIV 2: Glades v Southern 1-0 def 2-0, 0-1 Rockdale v Fairfield 2-1, 1-2, 3-0, 3-0, Polonia v S&E 3-5, 0-1, 2-4, 2-0
(No Div 1 games played)

SOCCER POOLS

Due to the Easter holidays the Soccer Pools page has been omitted in this issue.

It will be updated next week.

Don't miss your ASW every week!

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN SCENE WITH ALAN CLARK

SALISBURY has won the first Homefresh Bakeries Fair Play award for the First Division in March.

Omonia and Campbelltown tied for the Second Division prize.

Homefresh are sponsoring the award for the first time this season.

The best behaved sides pick up cash awards each month with a grand prize going to the best of the year.

Ray Toplass, incidentally, has taken over as chairman of Salisbury.

The NSL playoffs are likely to be held in September but the SA Soccer Federation would like them finished as quickly as possible as Hindmarsh Stadium needs a rest period for repair and recuperation.

Meanwhile, a proposed SASF board meeting last week over NSL content of Hellas and Adelaide City's State League sides was cancelled because of a crisis meeting between soccer officials, Hindmarsh Council and the State Government over leasing arrangements for Hindmarsh.

But the SASF is seeking legal advice over just how many NSL players can be drafted into the SA giants' State line ups.

There are special problems in SA with most players in the respective clubs holding dual registrations for the NSL and State competitions.

Any rules applying to Hellas also would apply to Adelaide City so it could be determined that both could field their full NSL sides in the State competition.

But Hellas players, in particular, would face the worry of 'burn out' if they did not get a break at the end of the NSL season.

They went straight into this season's NSL with hardly any lay-off from last year's State campaign.

If they were to go on and play in this season's State games they again would virtually only have a couple of weeks' break before the ONSL start in October should they win the State title and be successful in the ONSL play offs.

★★★

MODBURY soccer club has suspended coach Steve Amos until

he can sort out some personal problems.

The club will be led by Jim Muldoon who has been joint-coach this season with Amos.

★★★

TEENAGE Croatia defender Douglas Paterson has had a setback to his comeback plans.

The big 17-year-old, who was in the Joey preparatory squad for the last World under-16 Cup, broke his leg in the Ampol Cup final with.

He hopes to resume training this week but has been told he must keep his cast on for another month.

Croatia striker Ante Ljubic also is still sidelined with a groin worry and skipper Paul Blute is struggling to be fit after knee surgery.

★★★

KEEN soccer judges are predicting as big future for tall teenage defender Richard Howlett of CD Apac. The classy kid is sure to figure highly in the eyes of scouts from large SA clubs.

Campbelltown look to have a winner, too, in Paul Caprasso and former Australian High Schools representative John Francesco is a player of whom we should hear much more.

★★★

Each First Division side in SA will pick up \$6+ per point this season.

Second Division clubs receive \$36 per point.

The updated figures follow a rationalising of prizemoney by the SA Soccer Federation.

In addition to the points pay out, the SASF will allocate \$16,000 for the State championship, \$8,000 for second, \$4,000 for third and \$2,000 for fourth.

★★★

FORMER Adelaide City scoring sensation Dixie Deans is back in SA.

The ex-Celtic and Scotland star has been brought out as a guest of the club.

He played last weekend in a charity clash between old boys from Adelaide City and Brunswick Juventus.

Deans was a legend with City in the formative years of the NSL.

Now 43, he still looks fit and maintains his good sense of fun.

But he was not too

complimentary on the game back in his native Scotland.

"If you are fit, can run and kick, somebody will want to buy you for \$1 million," said Deans.

Chelsea's current England international, former Adelaide boy Tony Dorigo is likely to return to SA on holiday next year.

★★★

CLOSING date for tenders for the flood-lighting of Hindmarsh is May 7.

A decision on the

successful tenderer should be made within weeks thereafter and work could start in July.

★★★

AMPOL Cup winner Croatia got back on the winning way on Wednesday with a 1-0 victory against Adelaide City in the West End Premier Cup.

Mladen Putanic broke the deadlock with a penalty just before half-time.

CD Apac and Blackwood drew 0-0 in the other tie.

Tony Franken (obscured on ground) has the ball in his possession in this defensive mix-up in the Adelaide Hellas v Sydney Croatia fixture at Hindmarsh Stadium — JANUSZ KAMMA Photo.

Cut out play acting!

WRITES PETER BERRY

THE personal quality of fair play seems foreign to many soccer players these days, whether they are international soccer stars (Maradona — hand of God incident World Cup 1986) or a player in a local competition.

This important attribute world wide appears to be fading into non-existence on the football field, and in its place comes a win at all costs attitude which employs many underhanded tactics.

Too often players are cheating — for example being pushed and reacting as if being punched in an endeavour to have an innocent player sent off and taking injury.

The fear is that it is becoming an accepted part of football and in some quarters applauded and encouraged.

For instance, while playing for Turkey against Argentina in an SBS Fihm Cup semi-final, an incident occurred that typifies this unsportsmanlike behaviour.

The story is: the score was locked at 1-1 when speedy Turkish forward Oscar broke through and appeared destined to score.

At that moment he was rugby tackled by an Argentinian defender in a so-called professional foul just outside the box.

Naturally the player was sent off but the result of this was no score, no action, no satisfaction in seeing a fine move to its finish which may have resulted in a well taken goal, or a superb one-on-one save by the goalkeeper.

Our team may have been denied a goal by this foul, but the paying

tens were cheated out of exciting action.

To highlight the problem the red carded player was applauded as he left the field.

Why, I will never know!

cause a chain reaction within the crowd which I have witnessed on at least one occasion.

I recall playing in an Arabic Cup competition a few years back at Mar-



Another question that comes to mind.

Why do certain players overact when tackled by rolling over and over like a rolling pin as if they have been fatally shot?

On many occasions the tackle is fair and hard, and the ball has been won legally by the opposing team.

Maybe the player was trying to get the defender sent off, or his pride was hurt in losing the ball and finds rolling continually on the grass quite therapeutic.

In any case, when the referee waves play on, these players miraculously jump to their feet and recover.

On the more serious side, the danger of faking injury is that it can

rickville when a player over reacted to a tackle which flowed immediately to the crowd, causing a riot.

The match was abandoned and fortunately no one was killed or seriously injured due to the quick response by the police.

Again, another step back for football's image.

When it comes down to the bottom line I believe the general footballing public want their players to enter the game by playing positive, imaginative football that is free flowing, and unhindered by unfair play.

Indonesia at Bruce Stadium tonight

BY GRAHAM COOKE

THE Indonesian national team's appearance in the ACT to play a Canberra representative side at Bruce stadium tonight, has capped a hectic fortnight for ACT Soccer Federation vice-president Steve Darby.

But Darby, who will be in charge of the home side, says there is no way the Federation would have even considered turning the offer down.

"Sure it was short notice but if I was a player and heard an administrator had rejected a match like this I would go looking for him," he says.

Darby's squad was named after talks with the three leading club coaches in the area, Tom Sermanni (Canberra Croatia), Harry Williams (Inter Monaro) and Ron Smith (AIS).

His 17-strong list contains 12 from Croatia three from Monaro, one from the Institute and Marko Perinovic, who still lives in Canberra while playing for Sydney Olympic.

But he stressed there were only two certainties in his starting line-up. "One is Tom Sermanni, because if you are playing professionals you have to have some people with professional experience against them. The other is Ned Zelic who, in my opinion, has the talent to go right to the top internationally."

ACTSF president Ron Watkins says the

match will be used as a full-scale rehearsal for the game against Charlton on May 17.

"Believe me, we are taking both fixtures very seriously."

The first he knew about the possibility of a game was at the ASF annual meeting in Sydney.

I heard Indonesia was planning a tour and said 'the ACT would like to be in that', and the next I heard was a call from the Federation offering us the fixture.

"It will be the first time the ACT has played a full national team at soccer."

There will be a number of promotions associated with the game including a special offer for Junior League players.

"Any kid who turns up in club strip accompanied by their coach will get in for nothing," Watkins says.

"Otherwise there will be a flat admission fee of \$8 for adults and \$4 for children — the same as we plan for Charlton."

The Indonesian announcement, coupled with the Charlton game and an ACT representative side's tour of Fiji later in year, means this soccer season will be the most active in the national capital since the early 1980s.

Canberra (v Indonesia). From Anthony Giannasca, Peter Gunning, Ned Zelic, Andrew Young, Jason Dunn, Ray Junna, George Kulscar, Tony Lemezina, Alan Reis, Tom Sermanni, Doug Marcina, Steve Vanzetti (Canberra Croatia), Angelo Ambrosino, Frank Danielle, Njegos Popovich (Inter Monaro), Kris Trajanovski (AIS), Marko Perinovic (Sydney Olympic).

Hard time ahead for clubs in Cadbury State League

BY WALTER PLESS

WHITE Eagles will have to improve dramatically on its early season form if it is to retain the Cadbury State League soccer title.

The league champion, currently lying third in the table, was clearly missing striker Richard Leszczynski and Brett Harwood in its opening games as the side struggled for goals.

Leszczynski has since reconsidered his decision to retire and is back in the fold, scoring the decisive goal in Eagle's 1-0 win over Hobart Juventus in the Cascade Summer Cup, but Harwood seems intent on joining Hobart Juventus.

Eagles showed a glimpse of its form of last year when it downed Juventus and it shouldn't be too long before Eugene Mycak's men are setting the pace in the league.

Hobart Juventus probably has greater depth than any other team and once coach Frank MacCormac decides on his strongest line-up, Juventus will be a formidable team and a definite possibility for the championship.

Steve Walker is undoubtedly the find of the season and he has scored in every appearance for Juventus to date.

Originally from England, Walker played in New Zealand before coming to Tasmania. Juventus snapped him up from under the noses of Caledonian.

There is potential, however, and coach K. Pless, who has an excellent track record with youth teams, should get the best out

and Hobart City

Juventus has cover in all departments, including the vital position of goalkeeper, where Brett Williams, Neil Connell and Frank Mameela will vie for the position of number one custodian.

The fact that Juventus has more than adequate cover for every position makes it one of the favourites to emerge at the head of the pack at the end of the gruelling 24-match league programme.

Ian Parker, one of the most talented English players ever to have come to Tasmania, is player-coach of Caledonian this season and Parker's strong point is that he leads by example.

Caledonian has been frustrated so far by poor finishing and sheer ill-luck, but the tenacity and fitness of its players should see results soon.

Olympia-SBT Bank is one of the high-profile clubs off the field but Ken Morton's senior squad is certainly not the strongest the club has had.

Despite its weaknesses, the team leads the Cadbury League section of the Cascade Summer Cup competition and may even reach the final.

Croatia-Glenorchy has virtually a new team but if anything, it is weaker and less experienced than last year's side, which finished last.

Burnie United also has a new man at the helm, Ray Parke, who joined the club from Devonport.

It has a stronger squad than last season, and it still has that prince of goalscorers, Mike Denton, the former Australian international, but avoiding relegation will surely be Burnie's main priority.

of his players

Croatia may yet cause a few surprises this season.

Brendan Lakoselj, Sacha Puelin and M.ijan Begovic are among the most promising youngsters in the State and when they eventually team up with the likes of Nenad Zajec, Robbie Biric and Neil Thomas, Croatia's prospects should improve.

Ulverstone showed great promise last year and Alex McDonald's team is now showing the rest of the field a clean pair of heels.

Whether it can continue to do so is open to debate, but Andrew Howe, John Tom and 'Snowy' Compagne and David Mitchell rank among the best players in Tasmania.

Launceston Juventus is always a difficult side to beat, but coach Peter Savill readily admits his side is lacking a reliable goalscorer.

Devonport City has always been noted for its enterprise both on and off the field and things should be just the same under new coach, Tommy McKenna, one of the former great players at the club.

Burnie United also has a new man at the helm, Ray Parke, who joined the club from Devonport.

It has a stronger squad than last season, and it still has that prince of goalscorers, Mike Denton, the former Australian international, but avoiding relegation will surely be Burnie's main priority.



Heads It Is! Floodlit action in the Adelaide Hellas — St George NSL clash at Hindmarsh Stadium, won 1-0 by the home side. Pic: Janusz Kamma.

Ned Zelic captures attention in ACT

BY GRAHAM COOKE

CANBERRA Croatia coach Tom Sermanni is more than happy with the strength of his backline in the early season games.

With players of the calibre of Jason Dunn, Andrew Young and Doug Marcin it was always more than competent.

Now there has been an addition which has made it truly formidable — that of Ned Zelic.

There is really one question over this talented young man: Why on earth did Sydney Croatia release him to return to Canberra?

Zelic has played in a number of positions for the ACT club, performing creditably in all of them, but in most recent matches appears to have found a home as sweeper.

It is probably too early to make a definitive judgement but on the basis of a handful of pre-season tournament and cup games the teenager seems destined to write his own ticket to international stardom.

Zelic, still a couple of months from his 19th birthday, was magnificent in the recent cup match against Polonia — his pin point long ball forward from defence setting up the first goal.

Sermanni said of him afterwards: "He's giving us so many more options with his ability on the ball."

"As a result we are doing a lot of good, positive things and eventually we are going to break our opposition down."

Perhaps Croatia's only fear is that his exposure on the national stage in matches for Canberra against Indonesia and Charlton Athletic will prompt offers for his services the club will be unable to resist.

Laugh Lines



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Queensland's Sunshine Coast



The Sunshine Coast representative soccer team lines up for the season sporting its new gear under the watchful gaze of Turnbulls Sports Store proprietor and team boss Paul Pantano (front right) and coach Vic Reznikovsky (front left). The team is (back, from left) David Marcon, David Ripley, Peter English, Jamie Neil, Bodo Pinczel, Garry Lewer, Les McMillan, Ian Grant; (front, from left) Greg Hambrecht, Casper Fleming, Gavin Henricks, Shayne Martin, Robert Hedges, and Michael Ryder.

The team went down 3-0 to the Gold Coast in their annual challenge match at Buderim.

Later in the year Sunshine Coast will compete in the Ampol Cup held between top Brisbane clubs and surrounding regional representative teams.



Victorian State League Player of the Year Velimir Kupresak receiving congratulations from John Dimtsis last year. The Victorian star did not enjoy the best of seasons in his first year with Sydney Croatia, but he is likely to improve next season under coach Tony Vrzina.

Melbourne Croatia struggle in Youth League South

BY ROY HAY

LAST Wednesday night, leaders Melbourne Croatia had to struggle to gain a 3-3 draw with South Melbourne Hellas Blue at Middle Park.

In the first half, Hellas ran off to a 3-1 lead through Vince de la Plaza, Peter Kyrikilis and Mina Teleniatis but a penalty just before half-time brought Croatia back into the game.

Croatia dominated in the second period but could only manage one more goal.

Joe Bacak brought his tally for the season to 20 with two goals and Richard Milanovic was the other Croatia scorer.

North Geelong gained a well-merited point from league leader Melbourne Croatia when it forced a 1-1 draw at Echo Park on Sunday.

North led in the first half, when John Hrkac, coach turned player for the day, tried over a cross.

Miro Stovic headed it in and Adrian Cervinski scored with one of his specialities, the overhead volley.

North had much more of the play in the first half, but could not add to its lead.

The second half saw Melbourne Croatia up the pace, but Vinko Saric and his fellow defenders kept the visiting forwards at bay, and young Josip Skoko and Ivan Colak grafted hard in midfield.

Croatia finally broke through in 56 minutes, when a long ball forward found Hus Skenderovic who put Joe Bacak away.

The striker ran past a defender and slipped the ball under Slavko Banovic, who had no chance.

A Altona Gate regained second spot with a 2-1 away win at Olympic Village against Heidelberg United.

Con Sndravans put the home team ahead in the first half, but after a couple of telling substitutions at the interval, Altona Gate powered away with goals by Ivo Kulesovski and Susha Simovski.

Geelong City lost 2-1 at Skinner Reserve against Sunshine George Cross.

City had a good first half, though Mitchell Cattermole of George hit the post with the only effort which beat Grant Carr in that period.

The 16 year old has played in every game this year for City and showed his versatility with a fine match in



Robert Pergoletti (left) of Corio-Geelong United, team-mate Paul Reddon (centre) and Geelong's Danny Smythe in the Geelong Advertiser Cup semi-final — ROY HAY photo.

goal.

Andrew Harris had a shot which just cleared the bar and Cedo Rakic had the ball behind the keeper only for a defender to clear off the line.

Georgie brought on George Alevios and Athan Zacharias at half-time, and Zacharias responded with two goals which set City rocking.

City recovered and Con Gaitanis fired over a swinging cross when drew Jimmy Dimovski from his goals.

When the keeper stumbled, Charles Fitzpatrick was on the ball in a flash to score for City.

A few minutes later David Fleming's perfect cross was headed goalwards by Fitzpatrick, but Dimovski got a finger-tip to it at full stretch to force the ball out for a corner-kick.

Melbourne City JUST lost 2-1 at home at Clifton Hill.

All the goals came in last frenetic seven minutes.

Jim Maskos gave Clifton Hill the lead in 83 minutes and Peter Psarros made it two a couple of minutes later.

JUST then was awarded a penalty and Tony Belevinovski scored, but there was no time for JUST to get on terms.

The loss means that JUST has blown its chance of a top four spot.

Results

South Melbourne Hellas Blue 3 (de la Plaza, Kyrikilis, Teleniatis), Melbourne Croatia 3 (Bacak, Milanovic), North Geelong 1 (Cervinski), Melbourne Croatia 1

Bad weather handicaps juniors

BY KEITH GILMOUR

THE drop in numbers of soccer juniors in the huge Sydney nursery associations has been mainly attributed to last season's wash-outs.

This picture emerged from an ASW check of a cross section of Sydney association secretaries.

Laurie Simpson (Bankstown), Kay Irredale (Gladesville) and Peter Minigle (St George) all felt that the big wet had caused the numbers of players to decrease.

Simpson said: "We are down 57 teams, and that also affects our finances.

"This season's weather is not helping us so far, but we will be working hard to recover our numbers for 1991."

But wet weather and the resultant closing of grounds wasn't the only reason.

Manly Warringah's Syd Russell pointed to the aging of the population in Warringah Shire.

Frank Broughton of Canterbury drew attention to an alleged reluctance of the local council to give soccer fair use of its grounds, and Ku-ring-gai's John Hargreaves to the need for extra dedicated team managers and coaches.

Tan Leaper of Macarthur said: "Somehow, we juggled the fixtures and grounds last year to

provide football for the players.

"I think that was the point that helped us to retain the same number of players this year."

It was generally found in various districts that other competitor sports have faced the same decline in playing numbers that apply to soccer.

The indications are that the more an association managed to play in 1989, the better its numbers have been this year.

Canterbury's Broughton has a big question . . .

"Bennett Park's two soccer grounds were closed by Canterbury Council, but the adjoining rugby league pitch was in use Saturday and Sunday.

"Can we be given a fair go?" he asked.

Gladesville dropped 35 teams, but it might have been worse had not the Association played the most games it could in the wet last season.

Manly Warringah's Syd Russell pointed to the aging of the population in Warringah Shire.

Frank Broughton of Canterbury drew attention to an alleged reluctance of the local council to give soccer fair use of its grounds, and Ku-ring-gai's John Hargreaves to the need for extra dedicated team managers and coaches.

"Some councils have responded to the few school terms with April and July holidays by starting and ending the winter season later.

"Others have stayed with the traditional April/August.

"It's a headache we could do without."

Maybe the hint of a

dry winter from some weather forecaster could have a ring of truth about it.

Certainly the NSW associations — the whole 37 of them — are hoping so.

Joe Di Meglio

It is a great pleasure to report that SBS Television staffer Joe Di Meglio has received "all clear" reports on his health, following his recent serious operation.

Australian Soccer Weekly readers will recall that he was previously layout artist and a prolific writer with the nation's top ranking soccer paper before joining SBS.

In fact, it is not long since he visited Mexico as the only reporter attached to the Australian Indoor Futsal team for the 1989 Pacific Cup.

Joe resumed his duties at SBS on Tuesday.

NEXT WEEK

Lead-up to the GRAND FINAL — a Greg Blake special feature.

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AEROLINEAS ARGENTINAS

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Portuguese-sponsored clubs making a big impression

BY PAUL GOODWIN

THE three Portuguese clubs in Second Division have begun to make their mark, with all three sides disposing of quality opposition last weekend.

Dulwich Hill overcame a rejuvenated Granville-Chile at Arlington Oval, with last year's leading scorer Dennis Duarte grabbing two late goals to ensure that the 3-1 win went Madeira's way.

A brilliant save from Kevin Farrar in the early stages from the head of David Holmes prevented Chile from taking the lead and the first half remained scoreless.

Jim Ziras put Madeira in front in the 58th minute with a cheeky back-heeler, but a solo run by Chile's new signing from St George, Robert Esposito, ended with a 25-metre bullet-like shot which brought the sides level again, 10 minutes later.

It was left to Duarte to do the damage, bearing the offside trap in the 82nd and the same man stole in between the Granville keeper Trostrel and sweeper Willie Pinz to gain possession and find the net in the final moments of the game.

Sunshine

The sun shone on Waverley Oval sufficiently for the Eastern Suburbs derby between unbeaten Waverley and the form team Rosebery, to go ahead on Saturday.

The rain returned during the match, but did not interfere with the teams' excellent display of entertaining soccer.

Rosebery eventually ran out 3-2 winners, but did not interfere with the teams' excellent display of entertaining soccer.

Waverley stunned the visitors with a perfectly executed goal within 10 minutes.

A cross field pass by Joe Watson found Steve Milloy on the left flank and the clever winger made progress before cutting the ball back from the byline, after getting the better of the fullback.

His timely cross was met at the near post by the head of Barry Walker, who made his run with expert precision.

Milloy was a marked man from that stroke, but little more was seen of the Waverley strikers during the rest of the first half as Rosebery attacked relentlessly, but without reward.

An 11th minute cross by Ercan Osman eluded both Jimmy Keane and Ricky Somboli racing it at the far post when a goal was certain and another Ercan Osman put Tony Heery through in the 29th, only for the hardened compatriot to



WAVERLEY — 1990 First team squad: Back row: 1 to r: Peter Treacy, Frank Leyden, Mick Hanratty, Perry Stanbrook, Greg Whiteman, Alex Robertson, Barry Walker, Jimmy Berry. Front: Alan McGrouther, John Devenay, Ian Wotherspoon, Steve Milloy, Willie Campbell, Dominic Casey.

put the ball wide when only a few metres from his target.

Barry Walker posed the only persistent danger and after getting past Mark Hanratty on the right side, cut in and set sail for goal only to be deprived by a smothering save by George Psaroudis on guard in the Rosebery goal.

In the last minute of the first stanza, a well-rehearsed free kick brought the equaliser.

Ercan Osman pushed the ball wide to the left where Somboli cut the ball back and 20 year old Paul Harrington picked his spot with a far post header.

The fresh faced Harrington, a former schoolboy player with Burnley and originally from England's North East, has begun the season brilliantly and went on to get a hat-trick.

In the second half Womerspoon caused havoc with a cross which had to be booted off the Rosebery line but the same man was on hand to put the ball under the keeper's body a minute later, when Barry Walker nodded on a far post header.

They lost striker Derek Caiskey with a cruciate ligament injury incurred in a training game, but Kerry Cavanagh is working his way back to full fitness through the under 19 side and his return will help considerably.

Todd Roberts, with Russell Drysdale, another local who spent some time in First Division with Newcastle Rosebud, has also made a steady return after a two year lay off and contributed with Drysdale to the goal.

He had managed, however, to get onto a long searching ball out of defence by Ercan Osman in the 7th to bring the sides level once more.

With two minutes remaining the Second Division's runaway leading goalscorer sent his club's supporters into raptures by running onto a lofted ball from Ricky Somboli round

the last defender and finishing with style.

Having begun his Australian career with Pagewood, before linking up with Rosebery Portugal last year, Harrington appears to be set for a very exciting future.

Waverley lost their unbeaten record in the process, while the visitors extended to four their run of wins and now appear to be back to the form which carried them to an impressive Third Division title last term.

Stubborn

Central Coast broke through at last at Plum Park, overcoming a stubborn Manly-Warringah with a lone 20th minute goal from Andrew Ollier. Last year's Third Division runners up took set to make a steady climb up the ladder, now that they have picked up better form.

They lost striker Derek Caiskey with a cruciate ligament injury incurred in a training game, but Kerry Cavanagh is working his way back to full fitness through the under 19 side and his return will help considerably.

Todd Roberts, with Russell Drysdale, another local who spent some time in First Division with Newcastle Rosebud, has also made a steady return after a two year lay off and contributed with Drysdale to the goal.

A bad ball from the Coast keeper found Drysdale who sent Todd Roberts on his way and the resultant cross by Terry Mason was volved home by former The Entrance team-mate Andrew

Ollier.

Central Coast were particularly pleased with their showing, given the absence of Player-of-the-Year Stephen Kirby through suspension and the other injuries to key players.

Upset

Petersham sprung an upset at Ernie Smith Reserve, defeating the previously unbeaten Southern Districts 1-0.

Although the home side had a greater part of the game, they failed to put away their chances.

The two goalkeepers played a significant role in the result. Van der Leeden pulling off some super saves to deny Districts and Peter Berry making one fatal error by leaving his line too late, thus allowing full back David Kevern to get his head to a Danny Zannola free kick pumped into the box from just inside the half.

Zannola also cleared a Birol Serbas shot off the Petersham line, but Serbas missed other chances, while Filipovic was guilty of hesitating too long when in goal-scoring positions.

Gladesville and Fairfield City played a 1-1 draw at Knight Park in an even match which Gladesville could have wrapped up in the dying stages.

When Remyle Gallaway was brought down by goalie David Griffiths in the 15th minute, Gary Hastie was able to score from the penalty spot.

Paul Mamo came on as a substitute for Gladesville and in the 36th minute, following a corner, he sent over a second cross which Graeme Williamson

met with a powerful header.

Bernie Voloder missed a couple of chances late in the game and a Fairfield defender resorted to sitting on the ball to prevent it crossing the line, after a period of intense late pressure from Gladesville.

RESULTS

Waverley 2 (Walker, Wotherspoon) Rosebery Portugal 3 (Harrington)

Campbelltown Vikings v Mount Druitt Town postponed.

Central Coast 1 (Ollier), Manly-Warringah 0

Auburn-Yugal v Orange-Waratah postponed.

Dulwich Hill, Madeira 3 (Ziras, Duarte 2) Granville-Chile 1 (Esposito)

Fairfield City 1 (Hastie pen.) Gladesville-Hornsby 1 (G. Williamson)

Southern Districts 0 Petersham-Lusitanos 1 (Kevern)

Granville Chile v Central Coast played Easter Monday.

Top Scorers

9 Paul Harrington

Barry Walker, 4 Paul Petterson, Mark Butler, 3 Oskar Selik, Vaso Despotovic, Max Delicibus, Gary Hastie, Remyle Gallaway, Leo Ulloa, Sep Disch, Dennis Duarte, 2 Ray Carnegie, Nello Borges, Ugher Taskin, Tony Heery, Stephen Hooper, Gerkin Tasdemir, Robbie Lowe, Mick Davy, Chris Butt, Tiz Morosini, Radovan Filipovic, Ercan Osman.

AUSTRALIAN WOMEN'S SOCCER TEAM



TRACEY WHEELER

Name	Tracey Wheeler (NSW)
Club	Blacktown WSL
Birthdate	28.9.67
Preferred Position	Goal keeper
Occupation	Physiotherapist
Most Admired Players	Rose Van Bruinessen, Peter Beardsley
Most Memorable match	Losing to Chinese Taipei 1989
Favourite Music	Dire Straits
Favourite Food	Ice Cream
Other interests	Triathlon
Qualifications	Level 4 Referee
National Championships	4
International Appearances	1

Letter of the Week

CLEAN UP VITAL

Genuine football supporters must stand up and demand the clean up of the harmfulness caused by the ethnic rivalries that regularly drag down the greatest team sport and stop its progress in Australia.

However, president Vince Bolzan urges all members to attend as the main topic of discussion will concern some very exciting developments for coaching in NSW. All will be revealed at the meeting.

Wollongong progress

The Illawarra branch of the Coaches' Federation seems to be going ahead in leaps and bounds thanks to some outstanding work by Cris James, the Regional Director of Coaching.

In their two meetings so far they have had Eddie Thomson and David Lee as their speakers and both spoke to a very healthy turn-out of local coaches.

A hearty pat on the back for the lads from Wollongong.

see a repeat of watching an Australian soccer final and the like of Olympic and Marathons, or others holding Greek and Australian.

And the continuing saga of regular incidents like the one at Barton Park with origins in its ethnic-political past.

Or soccer's sake in Australia, please make your own flags and badges and promote the wonderful game of real football that not even a minority of the ethnic communities watch.

Viri Pires
P.O. Box 509
Darlinghurst 2010

FRIENDLIES

East Germany v Egypt 2-0; Algeria v Sweden 1-1; Austria v Hungary 3-0; Denmark v Turkey 1-0.



Amateurs, Juniors and Schools News

Send your stories and pictures to
AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY, PO BOX 406 BROADWAY 2007
Telephone (02) 660 2033 FAX (02) 692 0649



Schools break record

THE Commonwealth Bank sponsored Bill Turner Cup this year attracted a record entry of over 440 schools.

Covering under 15 teams, the Bill Turner Cup has the advantage of catering for all sectors of the education system.

It is to be hoped that the weather settles down and enables all games to be played.

CANBERRA

THE squad may be different but Canberra Croatia assistant coach Ivan Gruicic is determined the standards he set for the club's reserve team last season will be maintained and even improved upon.

In 1989 Croatia finished runner-up to Melita Eagles in the NSW State League under-19 competition then beat the champions on their own ground in the final of the top four play offs.

"I have no doubt I have more skilful players to choose from this time," he says.

Age restrictions have left him with just four of last season's squad.

But an intensive recruiting drive has netted a number of quality youngsters, including one of the brightest prospects in ACT junior soccer, 16-year-old Andy Ravanello, backed by Jason Swan from Belconnen United, Takis Velamis (Downer Olympic), Claudio Palombe (Juventus) and a quartet from Croatia's ACT League youth side, Johnny Simic, Pero Konzul (another Marko Perinovic in the making) — Mladen Ruge and Anton Meredjan.

GRAHAM COOKE

20 AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY — APRIL 18, 1990

Northern News

BY BOB DICKEY

JULY can not come soon enough for a representative team of under 17s from the Newcastle Amateur Soccer Association.

Meeting

The Northern Branch is anxiously awaiting the next meeting of the Australian Junior Soccer Council, which is to take place in June.

It will be at this meeting that a decision is made regarding the nomination of two teams from NSW into the National titles.

One team is to comprise Sydney players and the other to be the NSW country players.

If accepted, this will be a major step forward for the many players in country NSW.

Branch

Many teams are now gearing up for the branch championships on the June long weekend.

The locations of this year's championships are: U11 at Neilson Park Lismore, U12 Macquarie, U13 Danger St Fields Kempsey, U14 Rushforth Park Grafton, U15 Lockinvar, U17 Newcastle Phoenix Grounds.

The senior players will also contest the Branch Amateur Cup, this year to be held at Killarney Vale on the Central Coast — nominations will close on May 20.

If interested, contact Margaret Ford of the Central Coast Association.

The team is to take part in the 25th anniversary of the founding of Singapore by competing in a Youth Soccer Tournament.

The nucleus of the squad is from the under 16 team of last year which was undefeated during an inter-association youth league, organised under the auspices of the Amateur Soccer Federation of Northern NSW (ASFNNNSW) and played between three of their member associations, Newcastle, Macquarie and Hunter districts.

The team, which come from Raymond

Terrace and Adamstown Rosebud juniors

— includes Richard Low, Tod Ware, Stephen Roach, John Mulley, George Scorgie, Todd Fitness, Darren Goodwin, Paul Young, Andrew Martinelli, Adrian Ugray, Manuel Periera, Justin Beatty and Selwyn Hurst.

Tour leader is Wal Hurst, coach Ian Rushton and manager Mike Bobbins.

Their preparations had a major set-back due to the recent devastating earthquake and floods which struck the Newcastle area, and also affected their fund-raising efforts.

To offset the heavy costs involved, they are undertaking car washes, guessing competitions and pie drives along with appeals for sponsorships and donations.

Further information can be obtained from John Low on 049 51 1186 ah.

Nominations

So far eight nominations have been received for this year's 'Big Dog' carnival for under 10s to be played in the Newcastle area.

Nominations for this popular event can be obtained from the administrative officer, Max Norden on 049 304 365 (fax 049 304 575).

The carnival will be held on the July 7/8, so get in early and plan your year.

Wheatley

Negotiations have commenced with Robbie Wheatley, the Federation's promotion and development officer, to visit various schools in the Northern branch.

An anticipated date is around May although only tentative.

Robbie's appointment is a great step forward in the promotion of soccer in both metropolitan and country areas of NSW.

Skill development is way to go

BY NSW DIRECTOR DAVID LEE

If tournaments are continually organised in school holidays, when are these players going to learn their skills?

That is a question that 11 and 12-year-old children are being forced to make.

In a state of 160,000 players, there are controlled Skill Development and Apprenticeship Schemes available free of charge to approximately 35 players.

This includes the St George, Marconi and NSW Soccer Federation Junior Academy.

Well, never according to some coaches and officials.

Children are being instructed "they have to play for the district" in these tournaments.

What rubbish! An 11 or 12-year-old does not have to play anywhere.

Is he better off receiving 30 hours skill and playing?

Or competing to earn the management

another trophy?

Who are they putting first?

The child's development and future, or their own ego and ambitions?

Any coach with the child's future at heart would be encouraging the child to attend the coaching scheme.

The elite player would benefit and one of the regular reserves would have a chance to play for a change.

"But we might lose a game," is often the current idea.



DAVID LEE

A junior coach's objective is to improve players not win games. If this is not his aim or the reason, then he missed the message on the coaching course.

The Fiji connection of Thornleigh under 16 coach Francis Mudaliar resulted in the club heading off for a 10 day Fiji tour over the Easter period. Mudaliar has had a few years as team coach, and influenced the boys and their parents to raise funds for the trip. They will play against three high schools, including Marist Brothers in Suva, which Mudaliar himself attended.



THORNLEIGH: back row from left: Cameron Harris, Murray Rowe, Matthew Caygil, Mick Faber, Craig McCormick, Damien Bath. Front row: coach Francis Mudaliar, Michael Clarke, Simon Craw, Steve Drew, Adam Kirkpatrick, Dennis Whiteman, Darren Bodily, Malcolm Stedman, manager Bruce Harris.

Canberra Juniors

CANBERRA City Concordia has become a major sponsor of the Majura junior club, with the aim of establishing a career path for youngsters from mini-soccer to seniors, City's sports director, Alan Cringle, says.

"As well as providing much needed finance to the juniors, the coaching staff of Canberra City will conduct training sessions and encourage older players interested in coaching to become involved with Majura," he says.

"In return Majura will carry our logo on their playing strips and generally promote City among players and parents."

City's long established headquarters,

the City Club, has opened new headquarters in City Walk.

"We believe both these moves will improve our position as the leading club in the northern area of Canberra," Cringle says.

— GRAHAM COOKE

NSW Country reps camp

COUNTRY representatives were to the fore over Easter.

The under 14, 15 and 16 year groups were coached by State director David Lee and staff at the outstanding Wollaroi Kinross campus at Orange.

Then for four days commencing April 17 the U15s are all at the same venue for few days.

In charge is former Australian under 16 coach, Vic Dalgleish.

UMBRO YOUTH LEAGUE

ROUND 7
SATURDAY APRIL 14
DIVISION 1

	U13	U14	U15	U17
St George	v Sutherland	4-0	1-0	1-1
Sydney Olympic	v Marconi	w/o		
APIA	v Blacktown City	w/o		
Sydney Croatia	v Melita	2-4	0-2	1-1
Cant/M'ville	v Bankstown	2-0	0-1	3-2
Macarthur	v Nepean	3-2	1-1	3-3
Sthn Districts	v Illawarra	w/o		

	U13	U14	U15	U17
Ku-ring-gai	v Rockdale	w/o		
Canterbury	v Blacktown	w/o		
Warringah	v Avila	0-5	3-0	2-1
Gladesville	v Manly Warringah	2-1	5-0	0-1
Fairfield City	v Central Coast	0-6	0-1	1-1
Granville	v Polonia	w/o		
Sthn Branch	v Sthn & Eastern	0-0	def	0-7

THIS year's under 15 national championships will be hosted by the Macarthur District Soccer Football Association.

The series, in which all states and territories participate, will be held at Lynwood Park, Campbelltown, from July 7/15.

The best of the players will have the chance to be in the Australian squad for the under 16 World Cup.

Macarthur secretary Ian Leaper said: "We are arranging billets for 144 players, and officials have already been booked into Macklin Lodge."

"Staging these titles is a first for the City of Campbelltown."

"We have set out to get help from the business sector, and I will be glad to hear from any interested companies on 046 27 1691."

Around the globe

Compiled by LOU GAUTIER



Macari loses appeal

FORMER West Ham manager Lou Macari lost his appeal against his censure by the English Football Association for breaching rules on betting while in charge at Second Division club Swindon.

But FA head Bert Millitchip, who chaired the appeal hearing, said the authorities had yet to decide whether to reduce the \$2,000 fine imposed on the censured former Scotland international in February.

"We have the power to increase or decrease the punishment or to leave things as originally decided," he said.

"When the decision is announced we believe it will be the end of the matter."

Macari had appealed against both the fine and censure, arguing that even a token punishment was too much when innocent.



Lou Macari

Swindon chairman Brian Hillier, banned from football for six months for betting against his team in an FA Cup tie two years ago, also had his appeal turned down.

★★★

ITALIAN BONUSES

ITALIAN players may earn up to \$500,000 each if they qualify for the World Cup final and win Italy a fourth world title.

Antonio Matarrese, the president of the Italian Soccer Federation, said an agreement on World Cup money prizes was negotiated with the players' representatives, but he refused to confirm any of the details.

The agreement includes prizemoney for all 22 national team players for each step forward in the World Cup — qualification for the second round, quarterfinals and semifinals.

A bonus will be added in case of victory in the prestigious competition.



Juventus' Sergei Aleinikov in action. He is likely to move next season.

PORTUGUESE MATCH AT THE SUMMIT



Swede Jonas Therm, of Benfica, is isolated in the midst of the Porto defence during the recent 0-0 league draw in Portugal. Benfica will reach the European Champions' Cup final if they eliminate Marseille tonight.

Italy's magnificent quartet

ITALIA '90 WORLD CUP COUNTDOWN



BY BARRY MOODY

ONE of Europe's greatest defenders, a highly superstitious goalkeeper and two menacing opportunists up-front will spearhead Italy's bid to win the World Cup on their own turf.

One of the favourites, Italy will field a mainly young line-up, moulded by coach Azeglio Vicini from the ashes of the ageing team dethroned as world champions in 1986.

But four men will give the side maturity and stability at the back and a sharp cutting edge in attack.

They are goalkeeper Walter Zenga and sweeper Franco Baresi, both 29, winger Roberto Donadoni 26 and striker Gianluca Vialli, 25.

Of the four, Baresi is the most distinguished — universally praised as one of the world's greatest sweepers, an inspired playmaker who is as dangerous in launching breakaway attacks as he is coldly efficient in closing down star strikers.

Baresi has spent his entire career with Italian league leaders AC Milan, joining a youth side when he was 13 and taking the place in the hearts of the side's fanatical fans once held by the legendary Gianni Rivera.

"We will never give him up, you can't surrender the flag," Milan's owner, media magnate Silvio Berlusconi, once said.

Milan coach Arrigo Sacchi rates Baresi as the world's best libero.

"His coordination is as perfect as a Swiss watch," he said.

Shunned by former Italian coach Enzo Bearzot, who left him out of the Mexico side in 1986, Baresi is a protege of Vicini like most of the present team.

Baresi's contemporary Zenga plays for city rivals Inter Milan but the personalities of the two men are as different as chalk and cheese.

Baresi is modest and hates talking to the press; Zenga is flamboyant, has a weakness for pretty women and massive motorbikes and appears frequently in television advertisements.

He missed his first call-up for the national side in 1985 because he could not be found, apparently because he was involved in what the papers called "a sentimental adventure".

An aggressive, emotional player prone to yelling abuse at defenders who make mistakes, Zenga says his goal is "like my house. When they get the ball past me I feel as angry as someone who has been burgled."

A favourite of Inter's fiercest fans, Zenga has a deeply superstitious streak which prompts him to go through a ritual dance when he gets on the pitch, pirouetting, crossing himself and kissing middle fingers of each hand.

Zenga is a regular in the national side and is seen as the heir of his great predecessor and former World Cup captain Dino Zoff, despite the contrast with Zoff's placid personality.

Swinging rapidly between midfield and attack, Roberto Donadoni is likely to be a nightmare to mark for Italy's opponents.

But his terrier-like play has made him prone to injury and in 1988 he nearly died in a European Cup match against Yugoslav club Red Star, when he choked on his tongue after a collision.

Unlike Baresi, Donadoni and Zenga, Italian national striker Gianluca Vialli does not play for one of the great Italian teams.

His Sampdoria have never won the league despite occupying a steady position in the First Division.

Smiling and easy-going, he is happy living near the sea in Genoa and refuses to budge, forcing Sampdoria to turn down a \$13 million transfer offer from Milan in 1987.

Powerful and athletic, Vialli is known for flying overhead kicks and acrobatic headers.

He has a gift for freeing himself of heavy marking to steal a shock goal at a vital moment.

— courtesy REUTER

Argentina's World Cup hopes

All up to Maradona

BY REX GOWAR OF REUTER

ARGENTINA's hopes of retaining the World Cup will depend heavily on the form, fitness and mood of their captain and inspiration Diego Maradona.

The soccer genius who rose from a Buenos Aires slum to become a multi-millionaire was the star of the Mexico finals four years ago when he roused a disciplined and skilled, if unspectacular, Argentina to triumph.

"I dreamt I would score (against Cameroon)," said Caniggia. "It would be exactly a year after the goal I got against Uruguay in Goiania. I'm superstitious, I believe in those things."

But Bilardo may have difficulty building a defense as solid as that which conceded only five goals in seven games in Mexico.

Goalkeeper Nery Pumpido will have to be in top shape for his third World Cup finals.

A reserve for 1978 World Cup winner Ubaldo Fillol in Spain in 1982, Pumpido recovered from a road accident in which his wife was nearly killed to win his place in the Mexico team.

A resilient player who won four titles in 1986, including the Argentine, South American and world club trophy with River Plate, Pumpido came back from another freak accident in 1987.

During a River Plate practice session, he

caught his wedding ring in a hook on a crossbar, after jumping to make a save, and he all but ripped off his finger. A specialist replaced it and Pumpido was back training within two months.

Bilardo's enthusiasm is the quality which most enables him to communicate with his players.

In 1986, he talked Maradona virtually to the top with all-night discussion on tactics assisted by match videos on table cutlery.

Bilardo keeps in constant touch with his captain.

He visits him regularly in Naples, discusses his plans and encourages him as he prepares for the finals.



DIEGO MARADONA: he will carry Argentina's World Cup hopes — again.

National coach Carlos Bilardo is confident he will be able to count on a fully fit and motivated Maradona, despite the player's many off-field problems and quarrels this season.

"I'm more and more convinced that when he finally joins the national team it won't be difficult in the month before (the finals) to produce the best Diego, the one we all want," he said.

"Diego is a model of commitment to the colours he defends."

Maradona and several of Argentina's other key men, including new wing sensation Claudio Caniggia, play in Italy.

This will enable them to feel at home, particularly in Naples if Maradona's Napoli win the league title.

Argentina face the Soviet Union and Romania in Naples in their Group B games after meeting Cameroon in the opening match in Milan on June 8.

Caniggia, a lightning-fast striker, emerged as a brilliant prospect during the 1987 South American championship in Buenos Aires.

But his fifth goal for Argentina against Uruguay in the 1989 championship was the nation's last, a depressing record the world champions will be eager to quickly put behind them in Italy.

Rojas ban stays

JOAO Havelange, president of FIFA, says he has no intention of lifting the lifetime ban on Chilean goalkeeper Roberto Rojas, a newspaper reported.

Havelange reportedly made the remark during a meeting at the Sao Paulo Soccer Federation.

Rojas was suspended from international competition for life for faking



The scoreboard tells the story as last year's World Cup qualifier was halted after the controversial "faking" incident by Chilean keeper Roberto Rojas.

Rojas' wife sent Havelange a letter asking him to pardon her husband and noting that they are good Catholics, the newspaper "O Estado de Sao Paulo" reported.

"I responded I was Catholic too, that I pray, but I try not to sin so I won't need to ask for pardons," Havelange was quoted

as saying.

an injury after a flare thrown by a fan landed near him during last September's World Cup qualifying match with Brazil in Rio.

The Chilean team walked off the field after the incident, with Brazil ahead 1-0. The final score was upped to 2-0 after FIFA ruled that Chile had "abandoned the field".



Fiorentina's Nappi — scored a vital UEFA Cup away goal at Werder Bremen.



WORLD CUP REFEREES

WORLD Cup referees have been told to speed up play during this summer's finals in Italy and book players for deliberate handball.

"FIFA has told us to pay great attention to fouls and to interruptions — the game must be speeded up," Italy's Tullio Lanese said after a three-day working session for the 36 referees, including Australia's Richard Lorene.

Luigi Agnolin, the second Italian referee selected by FIFA, said rules would be applied "to the letter" during the 32-match tournament.

He said deliberate handball would be punished with a yellow card and referees would not tolerate protests by players.

"Referees will be inflexible during the World Cup," Agnolin said.

The referees from 34 countries underwent stringent fitness tests including individual timed races over various distances and a 12-minute non-stop fast running session.

FIFA has 117 million registered players around the world with almost half coming from Asia, general secretary Joseph Blatter claimed.

He warned the statistics did not give a full overview of the popularity of the game since it excluded adepts who play in school, military, police and corporate leagues around the world.

But even if Asia has 54 million registered players — mostly in China and India — the continent only provides two teams for the 24-nation World Cup competition.

In comparison, Europe, with 28 million registered players, has 14 nations taking part.

South America, with 16 million players linked to FIFA, has four nations taking part, including defending champions Argentina.

North and Central America and the Caribbean have 11.5 million players under the wings of FIFA and are represented by the United States and Costa Rica.

Five million FIFA-affiliated players are in Africa, which has Cameroun and Egypt at the World Cup.

"We have a whole continent and we have only two countries," said Cameroun manager Jean Manga.

"The British Isles alone have three teams."

Finally, Oceania has 2.5 million registered players but not one country made it through the qualifications.



It was the first such exhaustive poll of the FIFA member federations ever and Blatter could provide few details on the historic development in popularity.

Television is expected to spread the game to an unprecedented number of people during the month-long World Cup this summer, Blatter said.

For the Mexico 1986 World Cup, the accumulative viewership of the 52 matches stood at 12.8 billion, and was expected to rise to 15 billion this year "because of the spread of television sets" around the world, said Blatter.

In comparison, the Seoul 1988 Olympic Games in South Korea attracted a viewership of 9.5 billion.



UEFA plan Cup changes

EUROPEAN soccer's governing body is to consider proposals to scrap the seeding arrangements for club competitions in favour of a points system next season.

UEFA spokesman Ruedi Rothenbuehler said a UEFA study group had proposed scrapping the existing system of seeding clubs that reached the semi-finals of one of the three competitions in the past five seasons.

Instead, a new table would list points scored in all UEFA competitions in the previous five seasons.

Clubs would be awarded one point for a draw, two for a win, a bonus point for reaching the quarter-finals and an additional bonus point for subsequent

success. The total number of points would be divided by the number of matches played to create the basis for a ranking list.

The new system would rank teams from 1-32 in the Champions' Cup and Cup Winners' Cup.

There would be two groups of 16 teams with the overall top 16 kept apart in the first round.

Teams in the second round in the two competitions would be ranked 1 to 16 with two sections of eight. The top eight would be paired with the bottom section in each competition.

UEFA Cup teams would be ranked 1-64 and divided into eight groups of eight each.



Two of the top 16 clubs would be in each group with six of the lower-ranked clubs.

The second round would comprise four groups of eight clubs and four of those ranked in the top 16 in each group.

The procedure for the third round would be the same as that for second round matches in the other competitions.

Rothenbuehler said the proposals would be presented to the executive committee for approval before UEFA's congress in Malta later this month.

FENCE DOWN

PERIMETRE fencing at Sheffield Wednesday's Hillsborough ground where 95 fans were crushed to death a year ago is to be taken down at the end of the season.

Sheffield City Council is to act on recommendations in a report on the tragedy on April 15 last year during an FA Cup semi-final between Liverpool and Nottingham Forest.

The council decided that fences at the ground of the city's other league club Sheffield United would also be removed.



A dramatic incident from the recent top of the table clash in Italy between Napoli and Sampdoria.

Lazaroni headed for Fiorentina?

BRAZIL's coach Sebastiao Lazaroni said he was in contact with Fiorentina, but denied making a deal to take charge of the Italian First Division side next season.

There are only contacts with Fiorentina, there is nothing firm," Lazaroni said in this central Italian city where Brazil will stay from May 20-29 during

their build-up to the World Cup finals.

"I'm Brazil's coach up to the World Cup, then we'll see. I like Italy and its football," added Lazaroni, whose was touring Italy to finalise Brazil's World Cup arrangements.

Fiorentina sacked coach Bruno Giorgi three weeks ago, replacing him with 1982 World Cup player Francesco Graziani, seen as a guest player with Apia in 1988.

STASI'S SCANDAL

The East German secret police pocketed the \$2.5 million which West German soccer team Bayer Leverkusen paid for East German international Andreas Thom, a West German newspaper has claimed.

Thom, a 24-year-old midfielder, moved from Dynamo Berlin to Leverkusen in December in the first East-West German soccer transfer.

"Bild am Sonntag" said Dynamo Berlin's communist club president asked for the money to be sent straight to a hard-currency bank account which the paper said belonged to the hated Stasi secret police.

And that is why Bebeto — real name Jose Roberto Gama Oliveira — may strike a sore point when he claims: "Marco will be the best striker in the competition."

He adds: "There is certainly reasons to be worried about the threat from Holland — they are a strong side."

My other tips are Italy, West Germany and Uruguay."

Bebeto has found some prolific form for Vasco da Gama in the Brazilian top flight and could leave his own mark on the World Cup in Italy.

Brazilian bust-up

BRAZILIAN sensation Bebeto may have angered his strike partner Careca by suggesting that Dutch rival Marco van Basten is the better forward.



CARECA — miffed because Brazilian team-mate Bebeto rates Marco van Basten higher?

Van Basten is currently topping the Italian scoring charts with AC Milan and winning all the awards.

And that is why Bebeto — real name Jose Roberto Gama Oliveira — may strike a sore point when he claims: "Marco will be the best striker in the competition."

He adds: "There is certainly reasons to be worried about the threat from Holland — they are a strong side."

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Bebeto has found some prolific form for Vasco da Gama in the Brazilian top flight and could leave his own mark on the World Cup in Italy.

He certainly doesn't



Action from the Lecce v Atalanta Italian League clash. Players in the photo are Garzia (Lecce), Claudio Cannigia (Atalanta), Juan Barbas (Lecce) and Conte (Lecce).